



# County Law Library Services in Oregon

A survey conducted by Amy Gregory and  
Brittany Young

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## Introduction

The population of Oregon lives vastly different lives depending on their location. From the coast, to the metro areas, to the expanses east of the Cascade Mountains, Oregonians are diverse people and have variable degrees of access to resources. The availability of legal help is just as varied. There are 36 counties in Oregon serving 4.233 million people ranging in size from 1,456 to 820,672<sup>i</sup>. To highlight the disparity of legal options, Oregon has more than 14,000 active lawyers to which almost 85% are active in Multnomah, Clackamas, Marion, Lane, and Washington counties. There are no private practitioners in Gilliam, Morrow, Sherman, and Wheeler Counties<sup>ii</sup>. People in counties that have fewer legal resources also have less access to legal information. Even in the counties with more lawyers and legal resources, not everyone can afford or have access to them.

Luckily, law libraries are able to help fill the gap! Every county in Oregon is statutorily required to provide a law library or law library services. ORS 9.815 requires each county to “operate a free law library at a location that is convenient and available at reasonable hours” or “provide free law library services at one or more locations that are convenient and available at reasonable hours.” However, there are no definitions or guidelines in the law provided about the quality or services that the county law library needs to provide. Law libraries get questions from people across the state. We do our best to provide resources to information seekers, including referring them to their local law library. A challenge with these referrals is that law library services vary throughout the state. When we don’t have the information to refer someone to the local law library or information services, we are not able to tap into potential sources that can help people.

In the summer of 2024, Amy Gregory, Law Librarian at Washington County, and Brittany Young, Law Librarian at Lane County, conducted a statewide survey of law library services. To make this information available to everyone, we felt it was important to present the information in an accessible manner so focused on using plain language to the best of our ability. Specific information about each county can be found in their individual profiles where we aimed to capture the essence of law library services in each county.

All county profiles were taken as a snapshot in time. Changes to physical space or service offerings may have occurred since the survey was conducted.

## Findings

County law library locations in Oregon varied, but there were some commonalities. There are twenty-two law libraries located in courthouses. Courthouses have the benefit of allowing for the court to send information seekers to law library services without losing them in transit to another building, including attorneys and judges at the courthouse. Conversely, being outside of the courthouse has its own set of benefits. Some people associate the courthouse or going through security negatively. Some people with negative opinions of the court do not understand that law libraries are not part of the courts and law librarians are there to help them access resources, not keep them away from them. Fourteen counties have their law library services outside of the courthouse. At the start of our survey, we noticed many of the law libraries we visited were in the basement. Turns out that nearly  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the law libraries are located in basements.

Counties place their law libraries under a variety of departments, and nine law libraries exist as their own department. Some counties outsource law library services to other entities. Commonly

this is the public library where five counties have transitioned services. Four counties have outsourced services to OJD, legal aid, a local university, or a non-profit association. The remaining counties have law library services administered by their local DA (9) or County Counsel (5). The challenge expressed by these counties is that self-represented litigants don't understand why they can't get legal advice as both the DA and county counsel are lawyers.

Fifteen counties have dedicated staff for the law library, five full time and ten part time. There were also twenty-one that didn't have staffed hours at the law library and would help information seekers when requested. A common theme we heard from law libraries without trained and dedicated law library staff was the need for dedicated law library staff with training in the library field. As one county pointed out this isn't a skill you just know; you need training in it to acquire the skills. Similarly another county highlighted how it wasn't operating at its full potential as the people in charge have not been trained in law librarianship. If they had better law library training it would allow for more informed choices in their resources and service offerings. Similarly, many counties highlighted their dream of hiring dedicated law library staff if they had more funding as they recognized their time limitations for providing services at current funding levels.

Patron access to information about county law libraries varied. Eighteen have dedicated law library websites easily findable through your favorite search engine. Eighteen did not have any information about the law library online. Of the ones that have a findable presence online, sixteen have a public phone number and fifteen have a public email address or other written contact option.

Collections and resource offerings also varied. Most counties offered print resources. Six only offered print resources and twenty-one offered some self-help material. Access to online information and legal databases was offered at twenty-three of the law libraries. Two had only computer access for their law library services, twenty-six subscribed to legal databases, and four offered access to online information but didn't subscribe to any databases. Some of the counties offer services outside their building, fifteen advertise remote reference services, one offers ebooks.

Beyond the collection, we found that there are ten counties providing programming and twelve counties that worked on outreach opportunities. Multiple libraries expressed concern about expanding outreach and programming as they felt their services were underwhelming and would be misleading to their reality. As one county highlighted, law library services in their county were like the chicken or the egg. Without getting more people to use the law library they couldn't justify expanding services, but they also can't expand services unless they get more people in and in their opinion, there wasn't enough of a law library to advertise to get people to come in. This theme was repeated in multiple counties in conjunction with highlighting there is a need for law library services but not enough funding to support them.

All of the counties that were providing programming were willing to share and/or collaborate with other counties where appropriate. Similarly when law libraries have remote resources they are willing to share access and collaborate to expand remote resource offerings to others.

Of the counties that are able to do outreach and community engagement almost all expressed a desire to do more. Many counties have been unable to do outreach and community engagement but expressed a need for it in their community. Some opportunities were identified for us to follow-up and help. Law library services in each county are needed to get the legal information available in the hands of those that need it. Solo and small firm lawyers are the

predominant patrons of county law library services from the legal community. Most counties that are able to do outreach are not being utilized to their full potential by members of the legal community from lack of advertisement. This lack of awareness is compounded for people not in the legal field and increases the gap in access when people don't know the law library exists and what it does.

We found that across the state there were a few common themes about desires for future law library services. Fill-in-the-blank court forms was the number one desire across the state. A close second was the need for non-English resources, particularly Spanish. Another was for dedicated law library staff and/or training in law librarianship. Funding was a common issue in the counties with many feeling current funding levels were holding them back from reaching their full potential.

## Background

In the fall of 2023, Amy Gregory, from Washington County Law Library, was able to visit both Tillamook and Clatsop law libraries. From those visits, she saw a great disparity between all three of the law libraries and the service available to legal information seekers. One of the goals in visiting Tillamook and Clatsop was to see how the Washington County Law Library could help its neighboring counties. Through these visits an idea was sparked that this cooperation and collaboration could extend statewide.

There have been a few attempts to get information about law libraries in the past, however the data has not been focused on collaboration within the county law library community. In 2010, a survey was conducted which did provide useful information, but its recommendation of a different model for law libraries was never realized. Additionally, this survey was done fourteen years ago and there have been many changes to county law library services since it was conducted. The state law library also sends out a survey every two years. However, the response rate has been low and has had a different focus. Neither survey addressed the other items we wanted to discover about the realities of how legal information seekers can access legal information in each county or the services offered from each county law library/law library service provider.

## Goals/Objectives:

- Creating a knowledge base of legal landscape for each county that answers the following questions:
  - In depth exploration of the legal resource infrastructure
  - How to help/where to refer patrons based on geography
  - How county law libraries can help each other
  - Highlight what various law libraries have been able to do with limited resources
- Be able to create an outlook based in real-world data and information of what will happen if funding remains on the current trajectory
- Create a picture of what we can do with enhanced resources through partnerships and increased funding
- Expand connections between legal organization partners and foster awareness of shared efforts pertaining to providing legal resources
- Study how Oregon county law libraries and legal partners (where appropriate) serve lawyers, self-represented litigants and their communities as a whole and where the gaps

are, with a focus on access to legal resources, including utilizing a lens on historically marginalized communities and access to justice.

- To show that people matter. How people absorb information and turn it into knowledge is through connection and communication<sup>iii</sup>.

## Methodology

Planning our travel route and stops was a complex puzzle with multiple moving parts. When we initially reached out to each county, we asked where law library services were located, what days were available to visit, and, when needed, who would be a good contact when scheduling visits. When contacting county law library service providers, we initially looked at each county through a lens of public access so tried to find and contact each county as though we were public patrons. If a county didn't have contact information online, we called the main courthouse line as many law libraries are in their respective county courthouses. When we were unable to find any online contact information or were unable to get anywhere with phone calls, we used a contact list that is only available to us as county law librarians.

After our initial round of information gathering about how and when to visit, we created a schedule and sent days/times to each county contact. We focused on the locations with more limited access first, sometimes making alterations on schedule based on their availability, then reaching out and adding in the ones with more open schedules.

When we visited each county law library service provider we had a set of questions we asked. Additionally, we observed the physical space, access, and collection offerings. Oregon is a large state with many spread out counties. In order to visit every county law library in ten days, we had a limited amount of time in each location. We allotted thirty minutes in each space, including navigating the building of the service provider. If we did not get enough information for our survey, we reached out to counties to follow up or clarify answers. In the event that we were unable to connect with someone on the day of travel, we observed the space then connected with the contact later. We did this either through virtual communication to ask the questions, allotting the same time for questions as other locations, or sending a webform with the questions asked.

We also included some public libraries in our survey. In some counties, we had heard from other libraries that the public library was helping to provide legal reference. Some of them had previously reached out to us for legal reference assistance. One was mentioned as an additional place to find legal resources on the law library webpage. One was visited as the county contact indicated that the public library was being considered as an option for providing law library services.

## Challenges

Our biggest challenge was disruptions to our tightly honed schedule. When we encountered bed bugs in a hotel in eastern Oregon we were forced to travel an unexpected two hours to find appropriate lodging. We were then unable to visit the Grant and Harney county law libraries in person.

Another challenge was finding contact information and receiving replies when scheduling our itinerary. This resulted in some last minute itinerary changes. When contacting county law library service providers, we tried to find online contact information first. There were a few

instances where we did not locate the contact information that was posted online and had to refer to our contact list. We made assumptions about the ease of contacting staffed law libraries as we assumed we would be able to visit during any open hours. We also assumed all publicly advertised contact methods in staffed law libraries would result in responses and didn't do pre-contacts to ensure communications lines were open. When this assumption proved untrue for one of the libraries we did not have the time to investigate alternative public contact methods which impacts our ability to speak on accessibility for that county. Our challenges receiving replies continued when we sent county draft profiles and did not receive feedback from everyone. Additionally, we did not always know the structure of law library governance in a county until we learned that someone else needed to answer certain types of questions. When this occurred, it was commonly questions about funding where we needed to follow up with a different individual. It would have been more efficient to know this ahead of time to be able to schedule a visit with that person while we were travelling.

Another challenge was being unable to meet with law library service providers on our travels. In these cases we had to pivot to visiting without meeting with someone. We then later had a virtual conversation and created a webform when a virtual conversation was not an option.

There was never enough time to fully survey law library services. Not only was there not enough time in each location, but along the way we kept being informed of other places we should stop. This was especially true of public libraries that would indicate that we should talk to another public library as they were also receiving legal reference questions. To get a comprehensive look at law library services in Oregon at all levels, not just from the official county law library service providers, we would have needed at least triple the time if not more to travel the state.

## Successes

Our greatest success was in accomplishing our goal of documenting a comprehensive look at law library services across the state. When we get calls from people across Oregon, we now feel better equipped in answering questions and knowing where to refer people for specific resources. We also forged connections in counties we previously had no connection with. With those connections, we have been able to update our list of county contacts ensuring that we have at least one contact for law library matters in each county.

We have also been able to identify people and places that would appreciate and could benefit from training in law librarianship and providing legal reference. We have identified locations where law library service providers would like to work together to either provide programming and remote resources and/or publicize other libraries programming and remote resources. Through this, we identified additional places where we, as a county law library community, could help each other reach more dreams. Inspiration from around the state through success stories has already started bridging gaps and forging connections.

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<sup>i</sup> Oregon Secretary of State. (2022). *Oregon Blue Book*: <https://sos.oregon.gov/blue-book/Pages/local/county-population.aspx>

<sup>ii</sup> Haas, J. (2022). High Desert, Legal Desert: Lawyer Shortages Require New Initiatives. *Oregon State Bar Bulletin*, 83(2), 18.

<sup>iii</sup> Elbeshausen, H. (2007). Knowledge in dialogue: Empowerment and learning in public libraries. *Journal of Information, Communication & Ethics in Society*, 5(2/3), 98.



## Definitions

*BarBooks* - a set of lawyer practice guides published by the Oregon State Bar. A useful tool for legal professionals and self-represented litigants

*Information Seekers/Patrons* - In this report the terms information seekers and patrons are used to describe people who use law library services, including lawyers, judges, and members of the public

*Legal Aid* - This service is called different things throughout the state. In this report all of these services are referred to as Legal Aid

*Legal Databases* - This may include Lexis, Westlaw, Bloomberg, HeinOnline, Fastcase, etc. These are subscription databases providing access to case law. Additions to subscriptions may include briefs, legal analyses, practice guides, and more

*NOLO* - A legal publisher that provides explanations on various legal topics in as close to plain language as possible for the legal field

*Self-Represented Litigants* - people who need to interact with the legal system and do not have legal representation

## Commonly Used Acronyms

*CLE(s)* - Continuing legal education, In order to retain licensure members of the legal community must complete a certain number of continuing legal education credits each year

*DAs* - District Attorney

*OCCLL* - Oregon Council of County Law Libraries, A group of county law library service providers that collaborate and help each other to bring the best law library services into their community and to all Oregonians

*OJD* - Oregon Judicial Department

*ORS* - Oregon Revised Statutes



# Baker County



# Baker County

Baker County Courthouse 1995 3rd Street Baker City, Oregon 97814	<a href="https://www.courts.oregon.gov/courts/baker/resources/pages/default.aspx">https://www.courts.oregon.gov/courts/baker/resources/pages/default.aspx</a>
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The Baker County Law Library is located in the historic county courthouse in Baker City. The law library is administered by the District Attorney's (DA) office. There are great wayfinding signs for the DA but you would need to know that the law library was with the DA to find it. When trying to contact the law library, there was no information online that we could locate and resorted to calling the courthouse, eventually getting to the DAs office with some transfers in between. The space for the law library is on the 3rd floor. The Lexis terminal and some book resources like the ORS's are in the hallway outside of the DA's office. There are additional print resources that can be found in another hallway as well as in the DAs office. These can be accessed as needed by request. When people need to utilize the law library, they are greeted by the friendly office staff and may receive help from them or the DA, Greg Baxter. They currently assist through basic customer service and showing where the resources are located.

Greg Baxter, as the county DA, has forged partnerships with the local schools and community groups where he will provide informational programming about legal rights and information on legal topics such as wills and estates. Greg said he would be willing to investigate the possibility of working with other law libraries to bring these programs to a larger audience. Greg would also like to partner with other law libraries to bring training into his community. He identified his office staff, the friendly Kristen and Glenda, as well as a domestic violence community organization as people he believes would benefit from training on law librarianship. He is also interested in knowing about and advertising remote programming resources.

Staff with Baker County's DA's office don't do a lot of outreach about the law library and law library services, but there are community partners that are aware of it, like the court and public library that will send people to the DA to ask questions.

The DAs office receives about half of Baker County's Law Library appropriation. Glenda charges the circuit court for law library material and that has fully been funded by the appropriation. If they were not to receive their current funding, they would look at cutting Lexis or print resources. If they had an increase in funding, they feel like they need further training in law librarianship before expanding services.



# Benton County



# Benton County

559 NW Monroe Corvallis OR 97330	(541) 776-6673 <a href="https://counsel.bentoncountyor.gov/about/law-library/">https://counsel.bentoncountyor.gov/about/law-library/</a>
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The Benton County Law Library is located around the corner from the Benton County Circuit Court in Corvallis. While there could be additional signage from the street to indicate that the law library is there, as long as you know the street address, the library is visible. There is information on the Benton County Law Library webpage including clear contact, location, and hours information. However, if you do a maps search, Benton County Law Library does not yield results, so you must search for the webpage in order to get their address. Once inside you are greeted with a beautiful array of bookcases filled with legal treatises, digests, and self-help material. Patrons will need to knock on the door for entrance and Teresa Larson is there to greet information seekers and help them navigate the law library. Benton County has a terminal with Westlaw, internet access and ability to print in addition to their book resources. The Benton County Law Library is open 8 hours a week, severely limiting Teresa's ability to increase resources, services, and outreach.

Teresa is aware of a lot of organizations in the area and can help people navigate to organizations that can assist them. Teresa has forged a relationship with the Corvallis Public Library, where they refer patrons back and forth. The library is familiar enough with Teresa to know the law library hours and pass that information to patrons, ensuring they don't get disappointed by showing up when she is not there. Teresa is an active member in OCCLL, working with the other county law libraries. She is interested in and provides publicity for the other county law libraries' remote programs and resources, as well as local programs for close county law libraries.

Teresa would like to cultivate more relationships in her community but is constrained by her limited law library hours. The Benton County Law Library does not receive the full appropriation from the state; a portion goes to the court. The appropriation they do receive does cover the current service level.

If appropriation levels remain the same, service levels will mostly be the same, but with slight reductions due to inflation. If there are cuts, Teresa fears that would mean the end of the existence of the physical space for the law library. Teresa is concerned that if there are cuts to the appropriation, all Benton County could offer is a legal database terminal. Teresa does have a vision for what the law library could be with additional funding. With double the appropriation, Teresa envisions programming with increased staffing and hours, even possibly a notary. With triple the funding, she envisions a better building with amenities like rooms for meetings and video conferencing/remote technology. She would like to grow a digital collection for remote service options and exponentially expand community partnerships.



# Clackamas County



# Clackamas County

Alden E. Miller Law Library 821 Main St Room 101 Oregon City OR 97045	(503) 655-8248 <a href="mailto:lawlibrary@clackamas.us">lawlibrary@clackamas.us</a> <a href="https://www.clackamas.us/lawlibrary">https://www.clackamas.us/lawlibrary</a>
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The Clackamas County Law Library is located in a county/court building in downtown Oregon City, down the street from the courthouse. The Clackamas Law Library has an online presence with information in its offerings and location. While there are multiple options to contact the law library, including for virtual reference assistance, we were unsuccessful in receiving a reply though the publicly posted email address and used a law library contact list only available to us as law librarians. The contradiction between what we expected and what occurred does not allow us to reach a conclusion about the potential experience of a public patron for contacting the law library. Clackamas also advertises the law library with flyers in the community including in grocery stores and public libraries as well as having a social media presence. If someone visits the physical location of the law library, there is a sign on the outside door indicating the location to the outside world. To enter the law library, one must use a doorbell-intercom to call staff for admission. Once staff unlock the doors, information seekers enter the first door off the street, turn right down a short hallway and enter the law library proper through an additional door.

Once one enters the Clackamas law library they are greeted by staff with a sign-in sheet required by the sheriff that information seekers must fill out. The Law Library hosts material on most legal topics including having rolling shelves to expand space for more material. They have computer terminals with databases and open internet access. Jennifer D., the Clackamas Law Librarian, employs multiple staff members to ensure there is always someone to help information seekers at Clackamas when it is open to the public.

The Law Librarian partially credits her relationships with organizations in enabling her to provide programs like a Landlord/Tenant legal clinic in partnership with Legal Aid. She cultivates relationships with other community organizations to promote the law library and its services. She mentioned she serves on the board of her local bar association, and has worked closely with women's services programs, service centers for the housing challenged, as well as local community colleges and public libraries.

The Law Librarian has historically provided programs such as expungement clinics, facilitation services, local informational programs, and collaborative programs with the local public libraries. The Law Librarian feels that law library needs in Clackamas County are currently being met by her services.

The Clackamas Law Library receives the full appropriation of funds for law library services from the state. It does not currently cover the services provided at this time and is supplemented by minor revenue from other sources. The law librarian believes that Clackamas will be able to provide law library services at any level regardless of budget fluctuations. The Law Librarian believes that where there is a will there's a way to make anything happen. The Law Librarian did indicate that if there were cuts in funding that she might need to reduce people and/or material. Similarly if there were increases she would be able to increase her materials, services, and personnel. This might include looking into remote access for legal databases. The law librarian believes in always dreaming big and making any services work within a budget.



# Clatsop County





# Clatsop County

Clatsop County Building 800 Exchange St Ste 410 Astoria Oregon 97103	(503) 325-1000 option 1 <a href="https://www.clatsopcounty.gov/county/page/law-library">https://www.clatsopcounty.gov/county/page/law-library</a>
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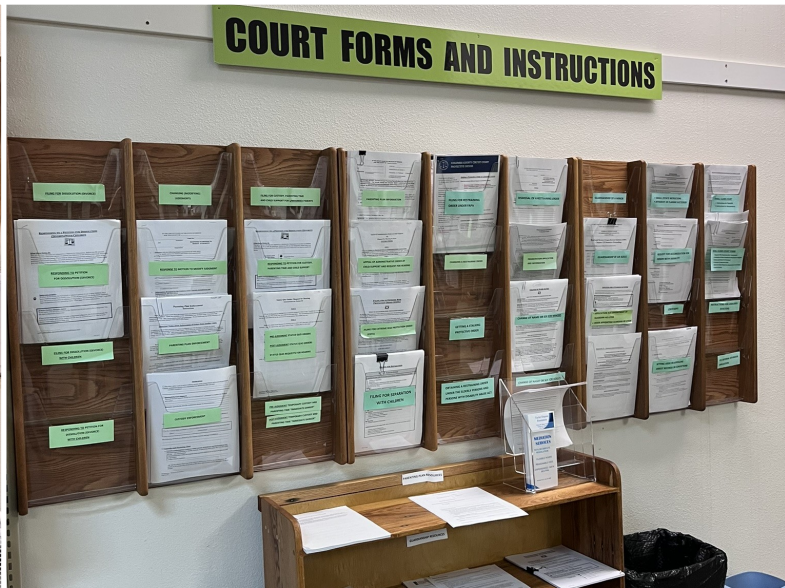
The Clatsop County Law Library has changed location and composition over time. Historically it has been a room within the courthouse that contained print material. As space became a premium at the courthouses, the law library could no longer be located there. It has since transitioned to a computer terminal in a meeting room in the county counsel's office a block from the courthouse. The computer terminal currently provides access to FastCase, HeinOnline, and open internet access. The law library is overseen by Anthony Pope, county counsel for Clatsop County. To access the law library, you would need to make an appointment to ensure the conference room is not in use. Anthony can show patrons the computer terminal and how-to guides, but cannot help with the legal research/resource process. Anthony would like to provide greater support but does not have the tools to do so, including time and resources.

Anthony has said that he has not focused on cultivating an online presence. There are directions on the county website to make an appointment but outside that, the law library is not widely advertised. He would like to market the law library better but has concerns of being underwhelming and worries about accessibility.

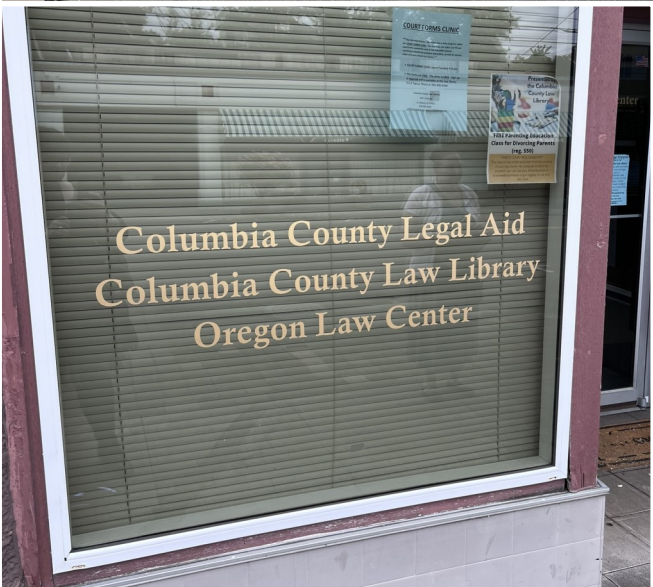
Anthony sees the need for greater law library services for the community in Clatsop county and would love to explore services and program offerings. He has been able to make in-roads with community partners such as the local bar association. He is interested in other county law librarians helping to share resources and reaching out to community members. Anthony would love to have a better relationship with the public libraries in the county as the cities are spread out and the public libraries are better situated to serve the sprawling community. Anthony is already working with the Washington County Law Librarian to make in-roads into the public libraries, as the public libraries have expressed concern about responding to legal reference questions.

One of the major limiters for Anthony to expand law library services is funding. Anthony is county counsel for the county and only a small fraction of his job is devoted to law library services. The law library does not receive the full appropriation from the state; a portion goes to mediation. The portion that Anthony gets does cover current Law Library services. Anthony has been conserving the budget to transition Law Library services to a more central location like the courthouse.

If the appropriation stayed the same, he would be able to continue service levels and the move of the law library. If there were cuts, he would continue to work toward the move but on a delayed schedule. When talking about increased funding, Anthony expressed desire for increased outreach, engagement, programs for self-represented litigants and their practical interactions with the court. If Anthony were to receive triple the current funding, it would allow him to hire staff dedicated to the law library.



# Columbia County



# Columbia County

270 S. First St St Helens OR 97501	(503) 396-5344
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The Columbia County Law Library is located in downtown St. Helen's, around the corner from the courthouse. The building is shared with the local Legal Aid office and a large, clear sign on the building denotes this. Once inside, you have to wind your way around the hall from Legal Aid intake to the law library. There are wayfinding signs to help navigate. Columbia County used to have a more robust online presence, including a dedicated webpage detailing location, hours, and program offerings. Currently their online presence is limited to legacy pages and mentions from other resources. Brandee Dudzic, law librarian, is known to us so we did not have issues contacting her. We don't believe information seekers would have issue finding contact information as it is available on the legacy pages and other pages for resources. Once you enter the Columbia County Law Library, the stacks are immediately visible and directly to the left, there is a selection of NOLO and other self-help materials, including court forms. Directly across from there is a work desk and a computer with printer access, and Brandee's desk where she is available to assist patrons. During the pandemic, Brandee started taking patrons by appointment only and found that she was able to give individualized attention and has continued this appointment model. Law library hours are limited as the law library funding only supports staffing for 70 hours a month.

To advertise the law library Brandee distributes flyers and posters throughout the community including the post office, laundromat, and public libraries. Where Brandee sees a community board, she tries to ensure there is a flyer for the law library. Brandee previously had a lawyer in the library program as well as forms clinics. Since these programs were volunteer based Brandee was limited in what local lawyers were willing to provide. At present, Brandee has exhausted her pool of volunteers, including attorneys and the Portland Community College Clear Clinic and has had to pause her programs. Brandee would like to be able to restart this or other similar partnerships and collaborations with community organizations. This is not feasible with her current hours available. One service Brandee has been able to maintain is her court forms assistance which she continues to provide even with limited resources.

As the Columbia County Law Library is administered by Legal Aid, they have a strong partnership where Brandee consistently knows when and how to get legal services from them. She has a strong relationship with lawyers in the community, as they sit on the Legal Aid board. Brandee is an active member in the Columbia county community, staying up to date on other community offerings and finding opportunities to advertise law library remote resources to help bolster services provided to the community.

The Columbia County Law Library does not receive the full appropriation with half going to the DA's office. This appropriation does not cover current services provided by the Columbia County Law Library. The funding for the law library is so sparse that if the appropriation stays the same, Brandee believes they would be closed in a couple of years' time and if there were any cuts, the law library would close sooner than that. On the flip side, if Brandee received double the funding the law library could support Brandee at 40 hours a week with the library open during those hours. With triple the funding, Brandee could hire more staff further expanding Columbia county's capacity to provide services to the community. Brandee has a vision of partnering with community organizations to create a safe space for children while their parents are interacting with the legal system.



# Coos County



# Coos County

## Official Law Library

Coos County Office of Legal Counsel 225 N. Adams St. Coquille, OR 97423	(541) 396-7690
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The Coos County Law Library is located in the courthouse in Coquille. At the time of this survey, the courthouse was under construction and the law library was not accessible. The current book collection was in storage and the computer that provides Westlaw access was also inaccessible. We were unable to connect with Michelle Wellington, who oversees the law library, to ask about law library services.

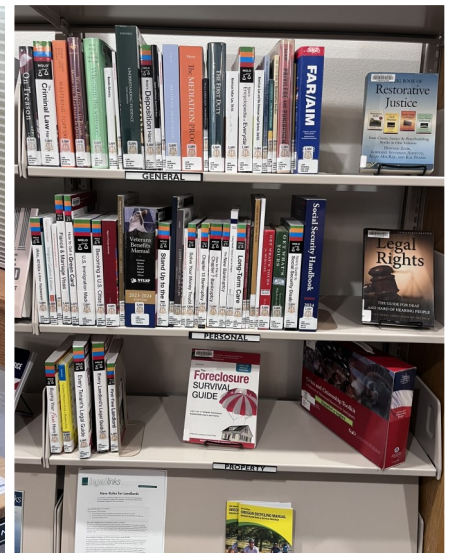
## Public Library

Coos Bay Public Library 525 Anderson Ave Coos Bay, OR 97420	(541) 269-1101 <a href="https://www.coosbaylibrary.org/">https://www.coosbaylibrary.org/</a>
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We visited the Coos Bay Public Library because we had been receiving legal reference questions from their librarians. Additionally, Stacey Nix, ESO Coordinator with the Coastline Library Network, had reached out to Lane County to ask for additional legal reference assistance. At the Coos Bay Public Library, we met with Reference Librarian Paul Addis, who gave us a tour and discussed the types of legal reference questions they receive. Paul is interested in collaborating with other law libraries to provide remote programming and resources as well as having librarian training for providing basic legal reference services before referring them to the law library.



# Crook County



# Crook County

Crook County Library 175 NW Meadow Lakes Drive Prineville OR 97754	(541) 447-7978 <a href="mailto:library@crooklib.org">library@crooklib.org</a> <a href="https://www.crooklib.org/library/page/law-library">https://www.crooklib.org/library/page/law-library</a>
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The Crook County Law Library is housed within the Crook County Public Library in Prineville. Upon walking in, the staff were friendly and greeted us. Kim Bales, who shares primary law library responsibilities with Sarah Beeler, gave us a tour of the library. The Crook County Public Library has a corner dedicated to the law library complete with a law library computer terminal which includes Westlaw. Access to legal resources both in print and online is supplemented by the public library collection and staff assistance from the public librarians. The law library collection houses self-help resources and lawyer practice guides. While there weren't wayfinding signs in the public library to the law library corner, the staff were very helpful in pointing the direction.

Contacting law library services in Crook county had some challenges. We had outdated information on the primary contacts. However, we knew that the public library was providing law library services so when contacting them, we eventually were introduced to Kim and Sarah. Law library services are advertised through the public library. There is a page on the main library website dedicated to the law library and law library services. We believe that anyone in Crook county would be able to find contact information through easy searching.

Kim and Sarah have been working with the Deschutes County Law Librarian on training to further their knowledge and ability to assist patrons with legal research information needs. They have been working on providing programming to the community. Recently, they worked with a local lawyer that received grant funding for an Advanced Directive (a legal document that outlines your medical wishes when you are no longer capable of making decisions) program. This program was booked solid every 30 minutes. As they learn more about providing law librarianship they are looking forward to future opportunities to expand partnerships and community collaboration.

The library receives the full state appropriation, less a few publications needed by court staff at the courthouse. If the law library funding remained the same, not much would change. If it were cut, they would have to cease updating materials and online subscriptions. On the other hand, if the funding were increased, they would do more short-term programs like the Advanced Directive program.



# Curry County





# Curry County

## Official Law Library

Curry County Courthouse 94235 Moore Street, Suite 232 Gold Beach, OR 97444	(541) 247-3290
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The Curry County Law Library is located in the basement of the Curry County Courthouse in Gold Beach. To access the law library, you need to get a key from the DAs office on the 3rd floor. A helpful sign on the door indicates this. Additionally, there are plenty of wayfinding signs within the courthouse itself. When you enter you are greeted by a newly renovated space. There is a comfortable meeting/study table, with a wall of legal books and treatises and a self-help bookcase on the opposite wall. There is also a desk with a computer that provides internet access and a helpful guide directing patrons to useful legal links. Attorneys can check out the legal books and treatises via a paper log and the public can check out a small selection of civil self-help books. This was the only law library outside of a public library that allowed public patrons to check out material! While there is no dedicated Law Library staff, District Attorney Stacy Delonge lets people into the law library and shows them where resources are located.

While Stacy does not currently partner with other organizations, she is very interested in doing so. Along with forging greater connections, she is interested in better servicing Curry county patrons by advertising remote programming and resources provided by other law libraries and organizations. She is also interested in bringing additional legal reference training into her community and for her court staff. Stacy highlighted the need for legal reference training when she expressed that this isn't a skill you just know; you need to be trained in it to acquire the skills. Stacy is also interested in partnering with the public library in some capacity and looks forward to forging connections with them.

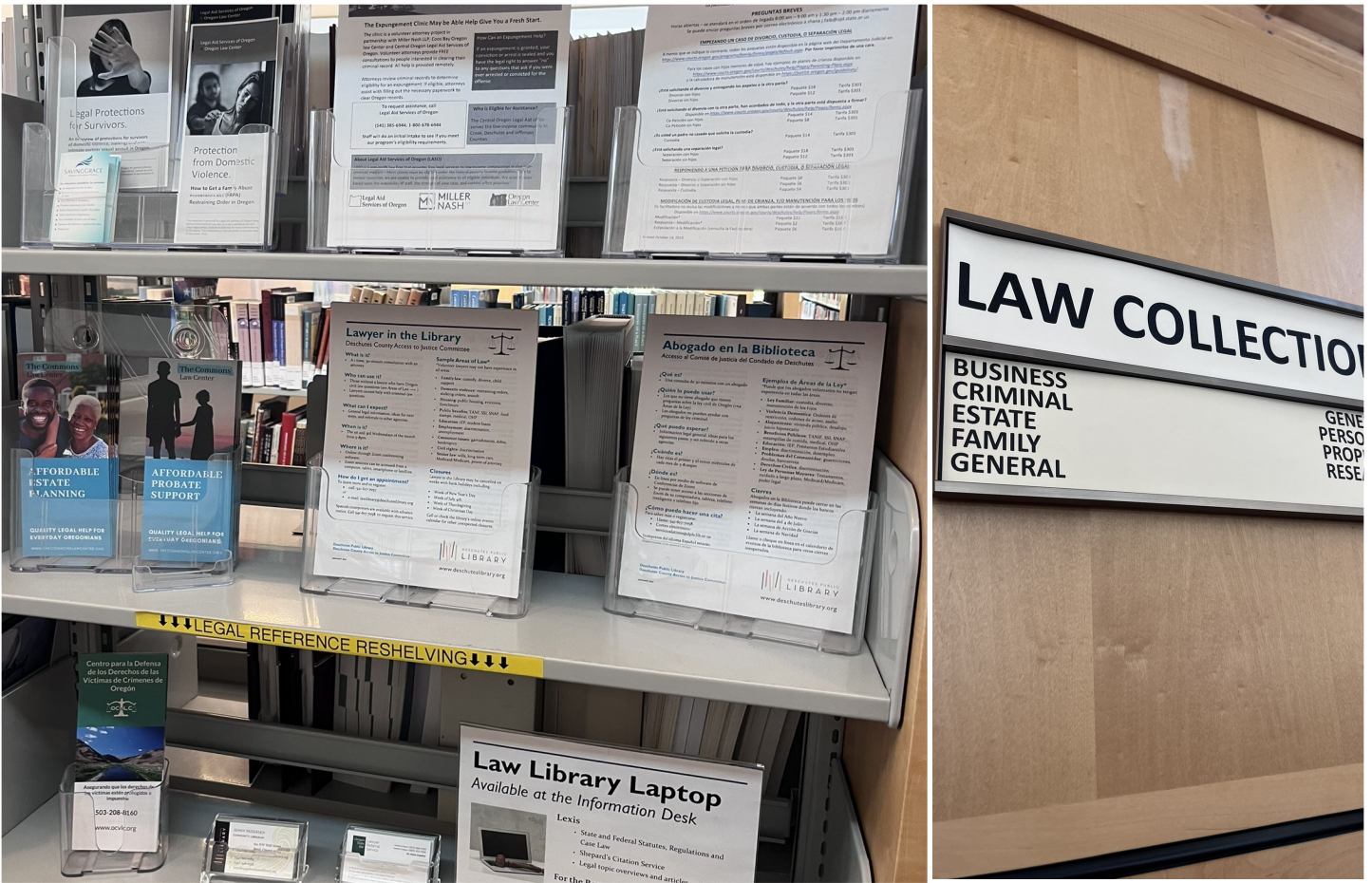
The Curry County Law Library receives the full law library appropriation and they spend 100% of the funds every year. They did recently receive a grant to update the current law library space making it more welcoming and functional including improving the furnishings and lighting, updating the collection, and making the walls more water resistant. While the current law library space is newly renovated and more inviting, Stacy does dream of a bigger, better, more accessible space that doesn't leak. Stacy indicated that if there were cuts in funding she would no longer be able to update the law library. If funding remains the same, resource levels would remain the same, but Stacy would look to incorporate other services that other law libraries provide.

Stacy recognizes the importance of having dedicated law library staff and if she received double the funding, she would look at hiring someone part time to provide programming and legal research assistance. With triple the funding, Stacy envisions the Curry County Law Library being in a different space that is larger, modernized and has greater staffing and services, building upon her ideas for double the funding. When talking about funding futures, she was excited about the possibility to expand and bring better law library services to the Curry county community.

## Public Library

Curry Public Library 94341 3rd St Gold Beach, OR 97444	(541) 247-7246 <a href="mailto:currylibrary@cplib.net">currylibrary@cplib.net</a> <a href="https://www.currypubliclibrary.org/">https://www.currypubliclibrary.org/</a>
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We visited the Curry Public Library because librarians from Curry Public Library have reached out to county law libraries for help with legal reference questions. Due to a generous donation to the Friends of the Library group they now have many updates including a booth in which patrons can conduct private phone calls and remote meetings including legal consultations without being overheard. Jeremy Skinner, director and librarian for Curry Public Library, endeavors to keep his legal reference section up to date. This includes purchasing the NOLO self-help books on a regular basis. Jeremy is interested in forging a relationship with the local county law library as well as collaborating with other county law libraries to provide remote programming and resource access.



# Deschutes County



# Deschutes County

Downtown Bend Library 601 NW Wall St Bend, OR 97703	541-617-7057 <a href="mailto:lawlibrary@deschuteslibrary.org">lawlibrary@deschuteslibrary.org</a> <a href="https://www.deschuteslibrary.org/research/legal">https://www.deschuteslibrary.org/research/legal</a>
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The Deschutes County Law Library is located in the Downtown Bend Public Library, in downtown Bend, within walking distance to the courthouse. Upon entering the building, you will walk into a welcoming public library atmosphere. While there weren't wayfinding signs downstairs, there is a desk to welcome patrons with a staff member to point people in the right direction. Arriving on the second level, a large information desk sits in the front center of the room. Directly to the left of the desk from the viewpoint of the stairs is the law library collection with prominent signage.

The collection is heavily focused on self-represented material. On the opposite side of the bookcase, there is a section of professional legal research material. They also have a laptop that can be checked out to utilize legal databases. It previously had both Lexis and Westlaw but due to budget constraints, now just has Lexis. The law library also provides access to other databases such as HeinOnline that can be accessed by patrons remotely.

Jenny Pedersen, law librarian with the public library, is an active member in the county law library community so we had no issues contacting her and setting up our visit. For people in Deschutes County, the law library services are advertised through the public library. There is a page on the main library website dedicated to the law library making it clear how patrons can access law library services. Jenny hosts many programs for self-represented litigants in Deschutes County including a lawyer in the library program where people can get consultation for legal advice for free.

The law library does not receive the full appropriation. A portion is reserved for the courts. The appropriation Jenny does receive does not fully fund all the law library services and the services are heavily subsidized by public library operations. If the funding remains the same or there are budget cuts, Jenny will continue to provide programming and outreach but reduce materials and resources. Jenny has visions of expanding law library services that would be achievable with double or triple the funding. Jenny would like to have their lawyer in the library program as a standard service in the library with regular hours each week by hiring a part-time lawyer. She wants to expand access to the law library across this large, rural county by adding copies of the most utilized self-help materials and legal databases to other branch locations. She would also look into translation services to better help her non-English speaking patrons. Jenny highlighted the importance that while this is her vision of increased law library services, the law library exists within the larger public library and would need to ensure any expansion would align with the library's mission, values, and inevitably, vision.



# Douglas County



# Douglas County

1036 SE Douglas Avenue Justice Building Room JB305 Roseburg, OR 97470	(541) 440-4341 <a href="mailto:dclawlib@douglascountyor.gov">dclawlib@douglascountyor.gov</a> <a href="https://douglascountyor.gov/252/Law-Library">https://douglascountyor.gov/252/Law-Library</a>
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The Douglas County law library is located in the Justice Building attached to the beautiful, historic courthouse in Roseburg. People need to go through the courthouse, over the sky bridge to the Justice Building, through security and down the hall to the law library. Staff in the building were helpful in pointing the direction to the law library. Contact information is online, as well as clear instructions as to location and open hours. The unassuming entrance that is the law library door does not give any hint to the impressive space behind it. There is a sign on the door with the hours. Entering the law library, there is an extensive collection of legal treatises and case reporters, including up the rounded stairs to the open second floor. There is a designated area with self-help material including select Nolo books and BarBooks. There is a computer terminal with Internet and Westlaw access that patrons can print from.

Upon entry, Michelle Evans, the law librarian, greets patrons coming in. Michelle is only here 12 hours a week, limiting ability to offer greater services outside of the current in-person assistance during the designated hours. There is a lot of foot traffic from lawyers using the stairwell to transition between 3rd and 4th floors without having to go through security. Lawyers can get keys for after-hours access which allows for this bypass at all times. This also allows them access to the law library resources outside of Michelle's 12 hours.

With the very limited hours, Michelle does not have the capacity to forge relationships in the community and hasn't received requests for legal research training from outside organizations. At present, Michelle does not have the bandwidth to support sharing of remote resources or programming provided by other law libraries or sharing of geographically close in-person events. She is not aware of other institutions in her community that might be interested in those sorts of partnerships.

Douglas county receives the full law library appropriation and it covers the funding needed for current service levels. If funding remains the same, the services would likely not change. If it were cut, resources and/or staffing may be cut also. When discussing funding increases, Michelle looked at what could increase support for the current service offerings, such as adding more staff and hours to support in-person visits.



# Gilliam County



# Gilliam County

Gilliam County Courthouse 221 S. Oregon St Condon, Oregon 97823	(541) 351-9490
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The Gilliam County Law Library is located in the Gilliam County Courthouse building in Condon. If someone knew the law library was near the Circuit Court, there are helpful wayfinding signs pointing to the Circuit Court. However, there aren't any wayfinding signs for the law library and they don't have information about the law library online at this time. When trying to contact the Gilliam County Law Library we were unsuccessful in getting in contact with anyone through public information methods and had to use a law library contact list only available to us as law librarians. Once one knows about the law library being with the circuit court, information about the circuit court, location and hours, it is easier to make contact and find access. The law library is mainly a bookshelf of books in a hallway outside the Circuit Court. In this collection, they have information about Oregon laws and some self-help material. There is an additional small collection of law books in the Judge's Chamber that is accessible with staff assistance. Staff at Gilliam are generally limited to showing information seekers the location of resources in the Gilliam County collection but can also direct people to online resources such as the OJD website.

The Law Library does not currently partner with any other entities but being a small community, many people know about it through word-of-mouth. Meriza Hansen and Ellen Wagenaar are the primary individuals who oversee the Gilliam County Law Library. Ellen was very helpful in responding to inquiries and welcoming people to the law library and Meriza was able to talk more about the Gilliam County Law Library and would welcome training for others in the community, such as public librarians. Meriza would also appreciate collaborating with other county law libraries for access to remote resources and programming.

The portion of the state appropriation that goes to the law library currently funds the existing services. If funding were to remain the same or be reduced, law library services would look about the same as they do today. With double the funding, Meriza would like to see the law library have its own designated space and have a trained staff member to help people with their information needs. With triple the funding, in addition to having staff in a designated law library space, Meriza envisions expanding online access and resources, including someone to answer questions online and potentially partnering with public libraries.





# Grant County



## Grant County

Grant County Courthouse 201 S. Humbolt Street Canyon City, Oregon 97820	(541) 575-1438
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The Grant County Law Library is located in the courthouse in Canyon City. We had scheduled to meet with Cleo McClusky but due to unforeseen circumstances, we were unable to visit in person. We were unable to connect with Cleo at a later time to ask about law library services.



# Harney County



# Harney County

Harney County Courthouse 450 N. Buena Vista Burns, Oregon 97720	(541) 573-8300
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The Harney County Law Library is located in the courthouse in Burns. We had scheduled to meet with Cheryl Runnels but due to unforeseen circumstances, we were unable to visit in person. We were able to connect briefly with Cheryl to ask survey questions. We learned that the law library collection is primarily a print collection inside the courthouse. We also learned that Cheryl is interested in expanding services but is unsure how or which direction to go.



# Hood River County



# Hood River County

Hood River County Courthouse 309 State Street Hood River, Oregon 97031	(541) 386-3103
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The Hood River County Law Library is located in Courtroom 1 of the Hood River County Courthouse. There aren't any wayfinding signs for the law library and they don't have information about the law library online at this time. To contact the Hood River County Law Library we called the courthouse, eventually getting to Meriza Hansen, Court Operations Supervisor. The Law Library has a collection of legal treatises and case reporters with some current editions of the Oregon Statutes as well. Meriza Hansen and other court staff can let anyone into the law library as long as court is not in session. They can show information seekers the resources in the physical collection but more often direct them to online resources such as the OJD website.

The law library does not currently partner with any other entities but being a small community, many people know about it through word-of-mouth. As a small community, Meriza would welcome training for public librarians. She would also appreciate collaborating with other county law libraries for access to remote resources and programming.

The portion of the state appropriation that goes to the law library currently funds the existing services. If funding were to remain the same or be reduced, law library services would look about the same today. With double the funding, Meriza would like to see the law library have its own designated space and have a trained staff member to help people with their information needs. With triple the funding, in addition to having staff in a designated law library space, Meriza envisions expanding online access and resources, including someone to answer questions online and potentially partnering with the public libraries.



# Jackson County



# Jackson County

Jackson County Circuit Court Resource Center 100 S .Oakdale Ave Medford, OR 97501 Basement of the Justice Building	541-776-7171 <a href="mailto:JacksonLawLibrary@ojd.state.or.us">JacksonLawLibrary@ojd.state.or.us</a> <a href="https://jacksoncountyor.gov/departments/administration/law_library.php">https://jacksoncountyor.gov/departments/administration/law_library.php</a>
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The Jackson County Law Library is a part of the Jackson County Circuit Court Resource Center. The resource center is located in the basement of the Jackson County Circuit Court in Medford. When trying to contact the Jackson County Law Library we were unsuccessful in getting in contact with anyone through public information methods and had to use a law library contact list only available to us as law librarians. Arriving at the courthouse there are helpful wayfinding signs on the main level directing to the resource center, then when in the basement, there are clear signs on the door and windows entering the space.

The Jackson County Circuit Court Resource Center has both the law library and the facilitation center. When one enters the resource center you are greeted by a desk with friendly staff that can help with facilitation intake. This center area which includes offices for the resource center workers, is flanked by large rooms on either side. The space on the right is currently in transition; it had housed some of the older law library volumes and is being converted into more workspace. The room on the left houses the remainder of the law library as well as other facilitation resources. The resource center has access to self-help material, legal treatises and has computer access with legal databases. The friendly staff, headed by Melanie M. for the law library, can help patrons locate items within the resource center.

Law library services combining with facilitation services to create the resource center has provided more opportunities for partnerships. For instance, the resource center provides a legal information workshop about once a quarter. The resource center has also allowed for a greater partnership with the courts and community partners. These community partners include police, school officials, Department of Human Services, court staff, and judges, all of whom are referring more people to the resource center. Melanie envisions increasing the Legal Information workshop frequency and is interested in partnering with other county law libraries to publicize remote resources and programs upon approval by Tina Qualls, Trial Court Administrator. Jackson County has a Law Library Advisory Committee that includes two attorneys, a judge, community member(s) and county staff.

The resource center received the full appropriation for law library services. When we talked to Melanie about funding futures for the law library she had a lot of ideas for the resource center. If the funding for the law library services remains the same or is cut, they envision not much change but they might not be able to update critical material for their self-represented litigants. If funding increased, Melanie feels they could increase the offerings of the resource center and could reach more people. She would also like to see some modernizations to the physical space including updating the older workstations.





# Jefferson County



# Jefferson County

Jefferson County Courthouse 129 SW E Street Madras, Oregon 97741	(541) 475-4452
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The Jefferson County Law Library is located in the Jefferson County Courthouse in Madras. To access the law library, information seekers would go to the DA's window and ask for access. Irma Navarro who oversees the law library can help people gain access and show people the resources available. The law library does not have an online presence so finding information about access was challenging. The county has not had a webmaster for years so making any updates to their web presence is not feasible at this time. However, the court staff are aware of the law library and send people to the DA's office for access. Inside the law library are legal treatises and a computer terminal with database and internet access.

Connie Palin, who also oversees the law library, was able to discuss the law library and community partnerships. The Jefferson County Public Library is aware of the law library and will send people over. The law library has not been used as much in the new courthouse and The county has been discussing the possibility of transitioning law library services to the public library once the public library has a larger space. The defense attorney community also knows about the existence of the law library. Connie has communicated with the Veterans' Services Office in the senior center. Connie is interested in sharing remote resources and local events both at the court and with the local public library. She also identified the public library as well as Irma who could benefit from training on legal reference and law libraries.

The Jefferson County Law Library does not receive the full appropriation but splits it with arbitration. The portion that the law library receives does cover current service levels. When asked about funding scenarios, Connie pointed out that the law library has not been operating at full potential as the people in charge have not been trained in law librarianship. If Jefferson County had better training it would allow for more informed choices of material but they are very limited for space. Connie pointed out that as the library does not have a trained librarian and they are not able to offer services at the same level as other law libraries.



# Josephine County



# Josephine County

Josephine County Courthouse 500 NW 6th St Room 152 Grants Pass, OR 97526	(541) 474-5228 <a href="mailto:legal@josphinecounty.gov">legal@josphinecounty.gov</a> <a href="https://www.josphinecounty.gov/government/legal_counsel/law_library.php">https://www.josphinecounty.gov/government/ legal_counsel/law_library.php</a>
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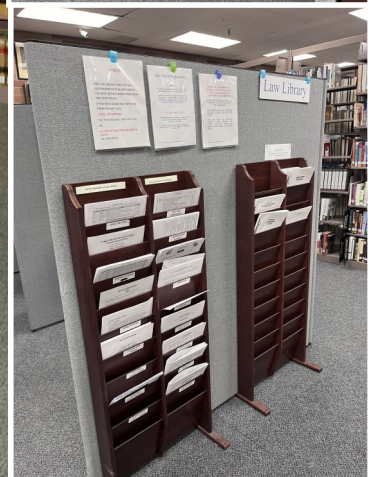
The Josephine County Law Library is in the Circuit Court building in Grants Pass. Upon entrance to the Circuit Court building there is a helpful wayfinding map. The law library has a doorbell that rings in the County Counsel office to alert staff to patrons. Nicole Mannan, one of the staff in county counsel, greeted us and showed us the law library space and its history. A couple of years ago the library was reduced to make room for another courtroom. It is now in a previously shared office where it houses the remnants of the books and a Westlaw terminal. The remaining books consist of reporters, treatises and statutes. They also have a view-only court records computer. Previously Beecher Ellison was the dedicated law librarian for Josephine County. In the transition plans for Beecher's retirement, not all knowledge transfer was able to occur. Nicole and other staff indicated that they would benefit from additional legal research training to better help patrons.

While Josephine County does not have the capacity to provide programming, training, or outreach they are interested in partnering with other law libraries and would like to advertise remote programming and resources. Nicole did recommend we speak to a person in Mediation services to see if they knew of community organizations that might benefit from training and further partnerships. Nicole is looking forward to the opportunity to connect further with the county law library community and make more connections.

The Josephine County Law Library receives 50% of the law library services appropriation with Mediation Services receiving the remainder. This does not fully fund the law library. It covers Westlaw and the physical materials. Staff time is not fully covered and is subsidized by County Counsel. If funding remains the same, the services would likely not change. If it were cut, resources and/or staffing may be cut also. On the other hand, if they received a greater appropriation, they would be looking for more robust training for staff development to better assist patrons.



# Klamath County



# Klamath County

Loyd De Lap Law Library 126 S 3rd St Klamath Falls, OR 97601	(541) 882-8894 x30 <a href="mailto:lawlibrary@klamathlibrary.org">lawlibrary@klamathlibrary.org</a> <a href="https://klamathlibrary.org/law">https://klamathlibrary.org/law</a>
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The Klamath County Law Library is within the Klamath Public Library, located in downtown Klamath Falls, across from the court house. Upon entering the public library, you can ask for directions at one of the welcoming service desks or utilize the wayfinding signs hanging from the ceiling. The law library has a designated space near the adult nonfiction collection where Belinda Raber, law librarian, provides reference assistance to patrons. Belinda is known to us so we did not have issues contacting her. We don't believe information seekers would have difficulty finding contact information as the library website makes it clear that the law library is located in the public library and how to contact them for law library services. The law library has physical materials and two designated computers for public use in the law library section. The computers had legal databases, but the database subscriptions were cut due to budget limitations. They have retained offering other services such as BarBooks online.

Belinda leverages the marketing of the public library to forge connections in the community, utilizing their website, social media, and the marketing within the library. She also benefits from the law library advisory board where she is able to further forge connections in the community. In turn, Belinda sits on other boards like the Family Law Advisory Council, to advertise law library offerings. Belinda has been able to draw on resources from the community organizations she has created relationships with to provide outreach and get volunteers for programs. The program "Lay Person Legal" featuring a topic of law and how to navigate the system, which is presented by people connected to the legal community, is one such program. Belinda also has a good working relationship with her local county court staff. This has allowed her to request the court to provide her with aids to help her assist patrons better.

The Klamath County Law Library receives the full appropriation of funds for law library services from the state. It now covers the provided law library services after cuts to resources such as the legal databases. Similar cuts to resources and staffing time will occur if funding remains the same or is reduced. The law library would look at expanding services offerings if the funding were to be increased. At double the funding, they would have increased programming. At triple the funding, they could compensate local attorneys for their time in providing assistance to self-represented litigants.



# Lake County



# Lake County

Lake County Courthouse 513 Center Street Lakeview, Oregon 97630	(541) 947-6051
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Lake County Law Library is located in the Lake County Courthouse in Lakeview. There are wayfinding signs within the courthouse building directing people through the building. However, one must know to look for the circuit court to follow those signs. Once at the circuit court, there is a court staff counter where they can help people get access to the law library. Additionally, they have a self/help forms center that is free as part of their law library services! They check the forms every Friday for updates to ensure everything is current. Staff at the court desk can direct people to the law library room just across the hall. The law library space acts as a dual law library and meeting room, containing the books and two computer terminals, one with court records and the other with legal databases and limited internet access.

Aimee Kintzley who is currently in charge of the law library is working on a transition project to move primary law library services to incorporate them into the public library. While we were unable to visit the public library, it is only a block away from the courthouse, providing easy accessibility for patrons at the courthouse to law library services.

The plan is to transition the books and other self-help material to the public library, in addition to a terminal to provide database access. This transition will also allow patrons to print from the terminal which they are not able to do at present. With the transition, Aimee is working to set up training opportunities for the public library staff so that they know how to field legal research questions, what resources are available and how to use them. Aimee will be working on getting public library staff networked into the greater Oregon County Law Library community.

Aimee expressed that she wanted to ensure that self-represented litigants and legal professional users both had access to legal services and that needs were met on both sides. With the transition to the public library, she will evaluate and ensure that user needs are met. With this transition plan, Aimee is excited to be connected to other law libraries contained within public libraries.

Currently the law library receives the full state appropriation and it does fund the current service levels. If funding stays the same, law library services will continue to be transitioned to the public library but there won't be expansion of the services. Similarly, if there were cuts, the transition would still happen but staff and resources would be decreased.

However, if there were increases to Lake County's law library appropriation, Aimee would expand services and resource opportunities. If doubled, Aimee would look at having staff dedicated to law library services. If tripled, Aimee would be branching into programming and outreach. Lake County is a very large county and service is needed across the county. With triple the funding, outreach for library services could be provided in other geographic regions and provide electronic resources. They would look at forging community partnerships, such as with the Crisis Center.

*\*A couple of months after visiting Lake County we heard from Aimee that she is going to be transitioning some of the law library to the public library. We have not had the opportunity to*



*meet with Marsha Richmond, library director, but have started providing her with county law library resources.*



# Lane County

125 East 8th Avenue  
Eugene, OR 97401

(541) 682-4337

[lclawlib@lanecountyor.gov](mailto:lclawlib@lanecountyor.gov)

<https://www.lanecounty.org/cms/one.aspx?pageId=4081120>

The Lane County Law Library is located in the basement of the Lane County Public Service Building in Eugene. When you enter the building there are multiple wayfinding signs to easily locate the Law Library. Additionally, the law library has modern signage in the hallway so information seekers do not have to wonder if they are in the right place. As Brittany Young, the Lane County Law Librarian, is one of the participants in this survey we did not have any issues getting in contact and scheduling a visit. However, the law library has an easily findable online presence with clear instructions on how to contact and find the law library. We do not believe that patrons would have any issues locating the law library through a simple search.

When one enters the law library, you are greeted by a welcoming space and friendly staff (when available). The updates to the furniture and decor make one forget that they are in a basement! The law library has self-help materials, more complex legal treatises, and CLEs, as well as computer terminals with databases and open internet access. They also have a couple of meeting rooms with video conferencing in one of them. The friendly staff at Lane County help patrons navigate resources like databases, provide referrals, and even help with using the computer.

Brittany is active in OCCLL and the Oregon Library Association, partnering with both law and public libraries, particularly public libraries in Lane County. She stays in contact with the public libraries as part of the Lane Council of Libraries and has a designated spot on the Law Library Advisory Committee for a Lane County public librarian. She also has designated spots for Legal Aid, the Lane County Bar Association, court staff, and other legal partners in the community which helps her maintain relationships in those sectors.

In a grant from the State Library of Oregon, the Law Library and the Springfield/Eugene Tenant Association worked on guides that were translated into Spanish with the help of Legal Aid. Brittany does have the desire to branch out further in regard to programming and outreach by collaborating with community partners more but does not currently have the bandwidth to support continued efforts at current service levels.

The Lane County Law Library receives the full appropriation. It does not cover the services provided at this time and is supplemented by a reserve fund built in the age of direct filing fees and vacancy savings. If funding remained the same, the Lane County Law Library would likely have to cut staff, and resources, resulting in declined engagement and outreach efforts. If funding were cut, this would happen on an even larger scale.

If funding were doubled, staffing could increase, and current services and resources could be funded solely on the appropriation. If funding tripled, resources could be increased and new services and programs could be considered with greater collaboration throughout the community.



# Lincoln County



# Lincoln County

## Official Law Library

Lincoln County Courthouse 225 West Olive Street Newport, Oregon 97365	(541) 574-1064
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The Lincoln County Law Library is located on the same property as the Lincoln County Courthouse in a converted industrial building in Newport. The Lincoln County Law Library does not have an online presence at this time. When trying to contact the Lincoln County Law Library we were unsuccessful in getting in contact with anyone through public information methods and had to use a law library contact list only available to us as law librarians. To access the law library, information seekers go to the board of commissioners office in the courthouse to retrieve a key card. When you enter the office of the board of commissioners, you are greeted by front desk staff who will have you fill out a form and leave your government issued ID that they return when you return the key card. After, you will head back outside and through the parking lot then approach an unassuming door that is labeled for the law library. On the door there are also instructions to get the key card. This key card system allows for access even when David Davis, a local resident, who oversees the law library, is not available. When someone enters the law library they are greeted by a creative use of the garage conversion. Lincoln County was able to create extra shelf space for their collection of legal treatises by utilizing the natural slope of the space creating a 2 level area. Additionally, Lincoln County has a couple of patron access computers with internet and database access.

As the Lincoln County Law Library is not staffed at all hours, signs and posters are distributed within the library advertising various online sources. When there, David can help people navigate the resources as well as provide lawyer referral resources. David will also help with document delivery requests.

David has provided the public library with signs and flyers letting them know about law library services. In addition, he has cultivated a relationship with the courts where court staff can refer people to the law library. David contacts other law libraries when needed and knows he can look to them for assistance with challenging legal reference questions. He is interested in other county law library's resources and events and is willing to share flyers and information at his law library.

The Lincoln County Law Library does not receive the full appropriation from the state. The rest goes to the court. The current portion of the appropriation the law library receives covers current law library services. The Lincoln County Law Library has adapted service levels to meet their funding so if the appropriation stays the same or decreases services would not change significantly. If there were an increase in funding David pointed us to Bryan Miyagishima, Director of the Lincoln County Library District, who expressed that he would like to see the law library add programming and outreach services in addition to regularly staffed hours.

## Public Library

Newport Public Library 35 NW Nye St Newport, OR 97365	<a href="https://newportoregon.gov/dept/lib/">541.265.2153</a> <a href="https://newportoregon.gov/dept/lib/">https://newportoregon.gov/dept/lib/</a>
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When we visited Lincoln County we also contacted the Newport Public Library Director, Laura Kimberly, and Bryan Miyagashima with the Lincoln County Library District as we had been told that the Newport Public Library received quite a few legal questions from their public patrons. When we met with them, Laura said they mainly get general legal questions around subjects like wills, maritime law, and some landlord/tenant law. With the public library and the county law library being in close proximity, Laura and staff send patrons to the law library from time to time. Laura is interested in collaborating with other county law libraries to provide remote programming and resources.



# Linn County



# Linn County

304 Broadalbin Street SW Albany, OR. 97321	(541) 924-6902 <a href="mailto:linncountylawslibrary@gmail.com">linncountylawslibrary@gmail.com</a> <a href="https://www.linncountyor.gov/lawlibrary">https://www.linncountyor.gov/lawlibrary</a>
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The Linn County Law Library is located in downtown Albany, about a block and a half away from the court house. There are multiple signs on the building indicating where the law library is and the online contact information clearly states how to access and contact the law library. When entering the Linn County Law Library, information seekers are greeted by the unique layout that supports a physical book collection and conference room versatility. The Linn County Law Library strives to support a functional and updated print and online collection, including self-help material, legal databases, computers with Internet access and legal treatises. When patrons enter the Linn County Law Library they are greeted by Law Librarian Amber Boedigheimer, who helps patrons navigate resources like databases, provide referrals, and even help with using the computer.

In addition to in-person offerings, Linn County has been at the forefront of providing additional support for tenants facing eviction in their eviction prevention program, Tenant Warm Line. This program is a collaboration with The Commons Law Center, Legal Aid, and the Law Library. The Warm Line is managed and operated by attorneys from the Commons Law Center and is a telephone-based, non-crisis, confidential line for tenants struggling with landlord-tenant issues. The Tenant Warm Line serves as a centralized hub, providing members of the Linn County community (at risk of displacement or facing a housing-related issue) with information about landlord and tenant rights. This program serves people by providing answers to their questions, giving general advice and direction, and guiding people through the process of filling out forms and writing answers, responses, letters, etc.

The Linn County Law Library actively promotes law library services via their webpage, 211, and news bulletins that go out to county departments. Amber also publishes ads in local newspapers to get the word out about Law Library services in Linn County. Amber is working with other organizations in the state and her community, especially with her Tenant Warm Line collaborations. She is an active member of OCCLL and always willing to partner with other law libraries. She already promotes the programs of other law libraries and shares her resources like the Tenant Warm Line.

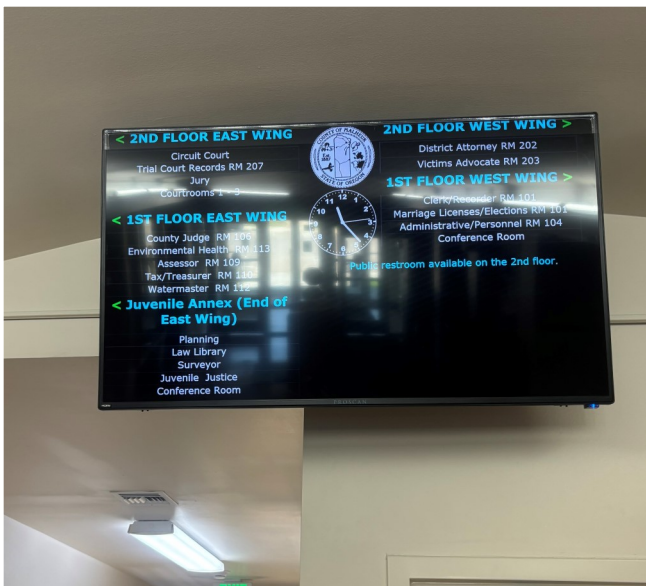
While Linn County receives the full appropriation, it does not cover the costs of the services that Amber provides. The Tenant Warm Line is covered by grant funding. If Amber is unable to secure future grants, the Tenant Warm Line cannot continue without additional funding. The program could be sustained without grants if Linn County were to receive double the current appropriation.

When asked about other potential funding scenarios, with any additional funding, Amber would look at updating and modernizing Linn County's space and expanding and updating online/digital resources. If Linn County were to receive triple its current funding, Amber could be full time and additional staff could be added, and by extension, further expand the assistance and programs Linn County can offer. If the appropriation stayed the same or was cut, she would need to make reductions to services and resources.





# Malheur County



# Malheur County

Malheur County Courthouse 251 B Street West Vale, OR 97918	(541) 473-5501 Stephanie.Williams@malheurco.org <a href="https://www.malheurco.org/county-counsel/">https://www.malheurco.org/county-counsel/</a>
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The Malheur County Law Library is located in the same building as the courthouse and other county and state operations in Vale. When one enters the building there is a very helpful electronic wayfinding sign pointing to all of the different departments, including the law library in the East Annex. This area is a little bit of a maze but staff in the building are very supportive in helping you navigate.

The law library is currently housed in a small room that has enough space for a single researcher to utilize the bookcase of research material or the computer terminal that IT has set up to have Westlaw, word processing, printing, and the court webpage. The bookcase has some of the law library's material including legal treatises and self help material.

The law library is findable through a search engine and takes you to the County Counsel's webpage, which lists the law library in County Counsel Stephanie W.'s profile. County Counsel will show patrons how to search and find the resources for their information needs. County Counsel also takes reference phone calls and helps people find resources and information over the phone.

Malheur County is a close-knit community where people are connected with one-another. Being in the same building as other county and court operations increases visibility to people who work and conduct business at the courthouse. This has allowed word-of-mouth to be highly beneficial in spreading the word about the law library.

For collection development, County Counsel sends out a survey to lawyers to get suggestions for what to add. This has resulted in her having a relationship with lawyers in the community, increasing visibility for the law library. They are open to partnering with other law libraries, to provide remote resources and publicity. They also believe that the public libraries in Ontario and Nyssa would benefit from receiving information about these resources. County Counsel can also see benefit for those same public libraries to receive legal reference training to help self-represented litigants. A set of the Oregon Revised Statutes is available at the public library in Ontario.

The Malheur County Law Library receives the full appropriation for law library services. While this covers the budget for resources, County Counsel and the county general fund supplements the services as staff time is not part of the law library budget. The budget has a contingency for upgrades to technology including when they need a new computer or printer. When asked about funding scenarios, County Counsel highlighted how law library funding has not kept up with inflation. If the appropriation stays the same or was cut, not a lot will change as there isn't room in the budget to grow anything and there isn't much to cut apart from the physical books. If Malheur County Law Library had adequate funding, the County would like to see the location improved, the collection grown, and possible part-time staffing. County Counsel would like to see funding for someone to work in the law library as she isn't able to invest the time needed to help people beyond quick basics right now.



# Marion County



# Marion County

Marion County Courthouse 100 High St. NE, Basement B181 Salem, OR 97301	(503) 588-5090 <a href="mailto:LawLibrary@co.marion.or.us">LawLibrary@co.marion.or.us</a> <a href="https://www.co.marion.or.us/LC/LawLibrary">https://www.co.marion.or.us/LC/LawLibrary</a>
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The Marion County Law Library is in the basement of the county courthouse in Salem. Entering the courthouse, one goes through security where the helpful officers point the direction to the law library. Getting further into the courthouse, there are convenient wayfinding signs that indicate the direction.

Once inside the law library, patrons are greeted by law library staff, Jon Brenner, Law Librarian, and/or Beth Anne Huffine, Assistant Law Librarian. Within the law library, there is a meeting space, materials for self-represented litigants, computers with databases and open Internet access. Information about the law library services and accessing the physical space is readily available on their website making contacting and finding them easy. Their online presence includes information aids to help with remote access and links to their fun X, formerly known as Twitter!

The Marion County Law Library has an informative bookmark that they have strategically placed with community partners in the area. They also have forged a relationship with the courts, where court staff will send patrons to the law library for help. Through this connection, court staff get information out about law library services and resources. Marion County Law Library used to have presentations and programs in the community to facilitate discussions on legal topics but has not been able to continue to provide this service.

Jon wants to forge greater relationships with public librarians in the county. Jon would like to collaborate with other law librarians and share resources to assist with forging relationships with his public libraries and provide training for public library staff on legal reference.

The Marion County Law Library receives the full appropriation from the state and it mostly covers current service levels. When asked about different fund scenarios, if funding were to remain the same or be cut, the law library would not update resources as frequently and depending upon the degree of cuts, would reduce staffing. When asked if the Marion County Law Library were to receive double the funding, Jon envisions keeping resources updated and adding more staff. He would also look into adding additional online and remote resources. Further expanding on increased funding, if they received triple the funding, Jon would expand staffing and expertise, increase hours that the law library is available, and would look at further expanding service options.



# Morrow County

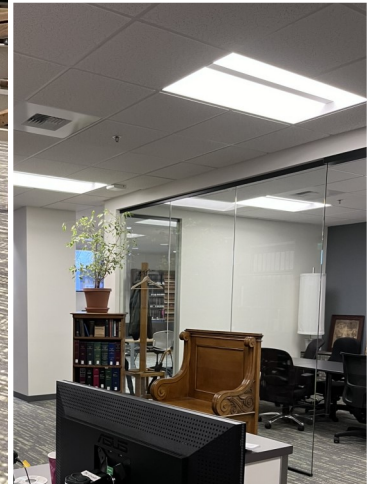


# Morrow County

Boardman Public Library 200 South Main Street Boardman OR 97818	541-481-2665 kstreet@otld.org <a href="http://www.otld.org/">www.otld.org/</a>
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Finding the law library or a contact for the law library in Morrow County was challenging. There is no information online and the contact we had from a list only available to us as law librarians was outdated. Eventually we were connected to Justin Nelson, DA and County Counsel for Morrow County. Justin indicated that the law library is currently in transition and they are looking at moving services to the public library. As there isn't currently a space for us to visit law library services in Morrow County, we visited the public library to find out more about their legal reference services and demands.

Kathy Street is the Library Director for the Oregon Trail Library District serving Morrow County. We stopped into her branch in Boardman. Kathy had a lot of questions about providing law library services and how other counties had integrated these services into their public libraries. We provided Kathy with a list of these counties and showed her some resources to connect with other county law librarians. We also talked about what sort of training Kathy felt her library staff would need, identifying opportunities whether the public library takes on the law library or not.



# Multnomah County



# Multnomah County

In Multnomah County law library services are provided by two different entities, the Multnomah Law Library and the Multnomah County Circuit Court Legal Resource Center. According to their respective agreements with the county, the law library provides services to members of the legal profession and the legal resource center provides services to the public. Law library funding from the state is divided between the two. This separation of service began on July 1, 2019.

## Law Library

6th+Main Building 1050 SW 6th Avenue Ste 180 Portland OR 97204	(971) 888-5961 <a href="mailto:librarian@multlawlib.org">librarian@multlawlib.org</a> <a href="http://www.multlawlib.org/">www.multlawlib.org/</a>
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The Multnomah Law Library was in the old Multnomah County courthouse in downtown Portland. There, Martha Renick, Law Librarian, had a working relationship with court staff where patrons could be referred to the law library and lawyers could easily access the space. When the new courthouse was built, there was not a space designated for the law library in the building and was moved to the current location six blocks away. The move required Martha to massively downsize the library and because of the physical distance, she lost the easy connection to the court. The law library is located on the first floor of the 6th+Main Building, easily accessed one floor up on the street level, second floor. While there are no way-finding signs there is security at a front desk that will direct you to the elevators to navigate your way to the law library. Once you reach the first floor there is a small sign in the upper window indicating it is the law library. When you enter the space you are greeted by library personnel that will happily assist you with your resource needs. Being one of the larger law libraries, it holds an extensive collection reflecting that size. While we know Martha and therefore did not have any issue scheduling a visit, we have no doubt that a member of the legal community would be able to easily find information and access the library, thanks to an informative website.

While Martha is not currently working with partners in the community, she is interested in having public libraries and other community groups receive legal reference training. Martha is unsure of the law library's capacity to support this but is interested in partnering with other law librarians to provide this training and fill gaps. Prior to the separation between the law library and the legal resource center Martha would work with community partners such as the Commons Law Center to bring greater assistance to self-represented litigants.

The Multnomah Law Library was founded in 1890 and became a non-profit in 1971. As a nonprofit they have been able to invest funds that the law library has then been able to use to supplement their appropriation. The state appropriation does not currently cover law library services and the investment income helps to supplement. As such, if the appropriation were to remain the same or decrease, they would have to look at reductions in staff, hours, and potentially reductions in resources and services. If funding were to increase, Martha would look at expanding services for outreach and community engagement. She would also like to expand access to services through e-resources and remote services.



## Legal Resource Center

Central Courthouse 1200 SW 1st Ave Room 02307 Portland OR.	(971) 236-8670 <a href="mailto:MUL.LRC@ojd.state.or.us">MUL.LRC@ojd.state.or.us</a> <a href="http://www.courts.oregon.gov/courts/multnomah/programs-services/pages/legalresourcecenter.aspx">www.courts.oregon.gov/courts/multnomah/programs-services/pages/legalresourcecenter.aspx</a>
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The legal resource center is located in the courthouse on the second floor. Once through security, there are helpful wayfinding signs at multiple points ensuring you are going in the right direction. The center is at the end of an unassuming hallway lined with small meeting rooms. You are greeted upon entry by the facilitation intake staff. Further in the room there is a bank of computer terminals and multiple locations for them to provide facilitation services. There is a bookcase directly to the back wall, labeled self-help with the law library materials. There is also one computer terminal designated for the law library portion with Westlaw and Barbooks. The resource center webpage does a good job informing the public about access to the legal resource center. Trying to reach publicly provided contacts about law library services proved challenging. When talking in person, staff were very helpful and welcoming.

Staff are primarily focused on facilitation services. When talking with Mirsa Lopez, lead specialist, she cited that they felt a lack of knowledge and training to truly incorporate law library services into the legal resource center. While talking with Mirsa, they were interested in learning how to navigate law library resources in order to increase accessibility to law library services in the center.

Facilitation services is doing a lot of collaborating with partners in the community. The collaborations do not yet extend to providing law library services, but they would like to get to a place where they feel like they can.

If the funding for the law library services remains the same or is cut, they envision not much will change, outside of continuing to strive to learn more regarding law library services. If funding was increased, they would look at adding law library specific staff and extending services to other court locations in the county.



# Polk County



# Polk County

Polk County Courthouse 850 Main Street Dallas, OR 97338	(503) 623-8173
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The Polk County Law Library used to be more robust than it is today. The law library is located in the basement of the historic section of the Polk County Courthouse in Dallas. The historic mixed with new made the courthouse a little challenging to navigate but the staff at the courthouse were very friendly in pointing people in the right direction. If someone wanted to access the law library, they would need to go to General Services and ask for admission. There is a sign on the door to the law library/breakroom indicating where to go, so once you find the law library, it is clear where to go for access. Currently, the law library consists of a computer terminal with Westlaw, internet, and printing access. Previously, the room housed legal treatises and other law books that lined the walls of the room. However, costs for purchasing as well as the staff time needed for upkeep was prohibitive for Polk County to continue to maintain a physical collection. With the removal of the print collection in conjunction with other transitions in the county space, the law library room became an employee break room with the law library computer in the corner.

The Polk County Law Library does not have an online presence and we were unsuccessful in contacting anyone through public information methods and had to use a law library contact list only available to us as law librarians. Morgan Smith is in charge of the law library and is also County Counsel. Morgan will help people navigate Westlaw but does not have the time to do more. Morgan would love to have a better way to help people, but he does not have the resources to expand services at this time.

Morgan sees the need for greater law library services for the community in Polk County and would love to explore services and program offerings. He is interested in other county law librarians helping to share resources and reaching out to community members such as public libraries. Morgan is also interested in investigating options to connect Polk County to other law libraries such as introducing a phone with a contact list for staffed law libraries. Morgan is worried that if there is more demand for the Polk County Law Library that he will not be able to support it and he is worried that people will have expectations of a more robust law library than Polk County has to offer.

Morgan has a vision of where law library services could go. He would like to have a law library collection focusing on resources for self-represented litigants. He also highlighted the importance of having a dedicated staff member to operate it and assist people. His vision includes a close working relationship with court staff that would create a workflow of easy access and assistance to material between the court and the library staff. Morgan believes that he would be able to achieve this vision with triple the current funding. Scaling it back a little, if Polk County were to receive double the funding, he would look at adding more staff to help navigate the legal research process but would not be able to create the dedicated program that triple the funding would allow. If funding were to stay the same or be cut, services would either remain the same or at a certain point, Morgan would look at cutting even the legal database subscription.



# Sherman County



# Sherman County

## Official Law Library

Sherman Circuit Court 500 Court St Moro Or 97039	<a href="http://www.co.sherman.or.us/question/find-law-library/#/city/answers/courts/find-law-library">www.co.sherman.or.us/question/find-law-library/#/city/answers/courts/find-law-library</a>
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The Sherman County Law Library is located in the new portion of the Sherman County Courthouse in Moro. There are excellent wayfinding signs indicating which part of the courthouse and which floor the law library is on. The law library's resources are split into two areas of the courthouse. There is a Lexis terminal outside the courtroom and book resources inside the courtroom. There is a page for the law library on the Sherman County website, providing details on access as well as suggesting the public library for additional resources.

Jennifer Lenz, Office Manager in the District Attorney's office, is interested in partnering with other county law libraries to provide access to remote resources and programming. She also identified county departments and organizations that could benefit from training and/or resources as well.

Currently the law library services are fully funded by the law library appropriation. If law library funding was cut or remained the same, not much would change but they may have to cut Lexis if there was not enough funding to cover the subscription. When asked to dream big and to consider services if funding wasn't a limiter, Jennifer envisions a dedicated law library space with trained staff and outreach engagement.

## Public library

Sherman County Public/School Library 65912 High School Loop Moro OR 97039	(541) 565-3279 shermanlibrary@sherman.k12.or.us shermancountypsl.weebly.com
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The official Law Library website for Sherman County directs people to go to Sherman Public Library for additional resources. We visited the Sherman County Public/School Library for this reason. The Sherman County Public/School Library is housed in the elementary portion of the school and serves all great levels, with many resources geared at juveniles. Taylor Crow is the new librarian for the public library and has not had the opportunity to forge connections with the Sherman County Law Library yet. Taylor is interested in collaborating with other county law libraries to provide remote programming and resources.



# Tillamook County



# Tillamook County

Tillamook County Library 1716 Third Street Tillamook OR 97141	(503) 842-4792 <a href="http://www.tillabook.org/library/page/tillamook-main">www.tillabook.org/library/page/tillamook-main</a>
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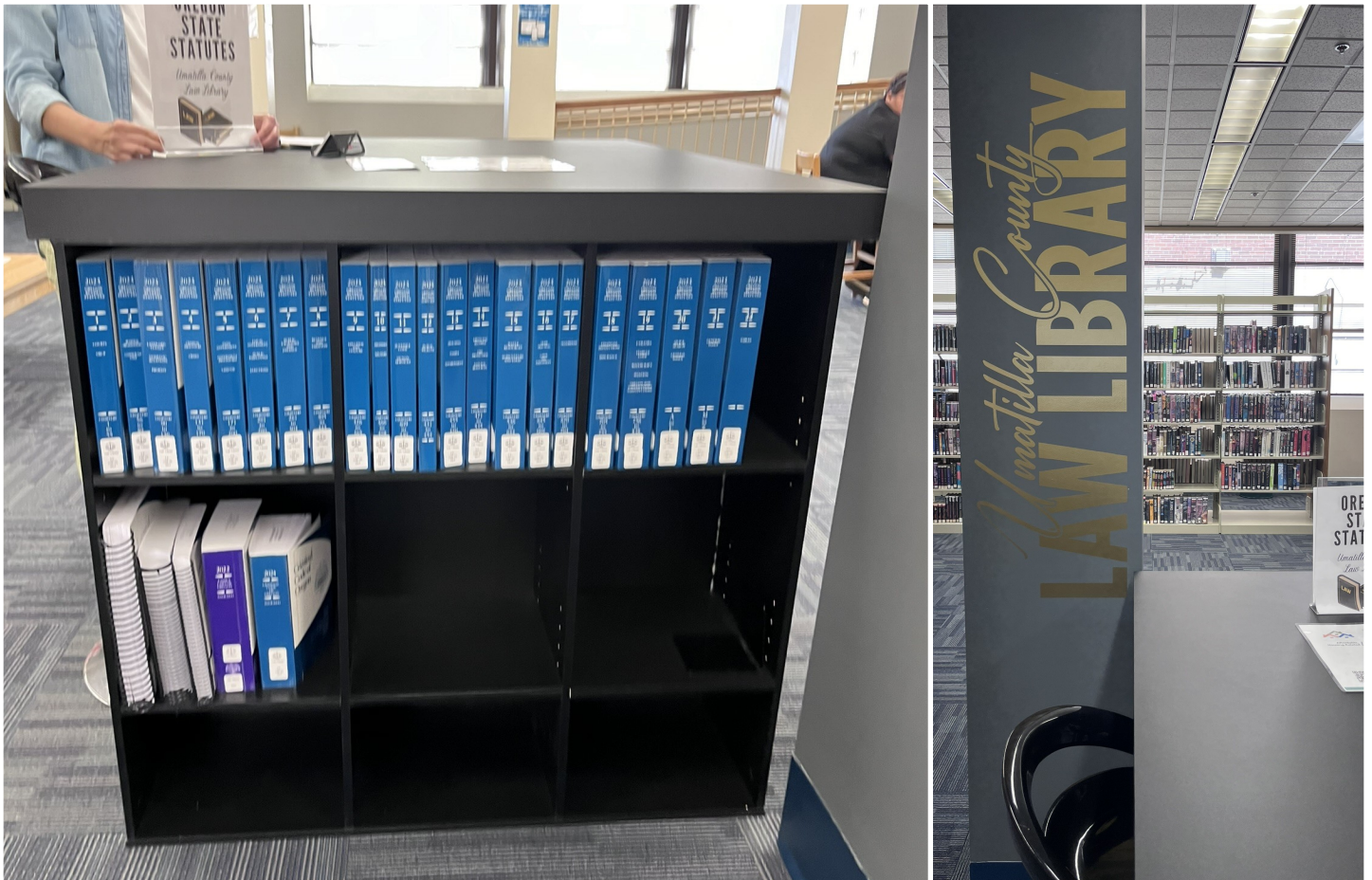
Law library services in Tillamook County are provided by the Tillamook County Library, the public library in Tillamook. There is a designated room on the second floor to provide law library services. The room consists of a computer terminal with Lexis access and other helpful legal reference links and a small, physical collection of material donated from other sources like the courts and other law libraries. Outside of the room they have historic reporters and while not a complete set, they help put researchers in a legal frame of mind. The public library collection enhances the law library offerings through self-help materials such as NOLO publications.

Law library services were transitioned to the public library, however, they had not received any law library training until connecting with other law libraries. Since then, Librarian Courtney Remington, and Library Director Don Allgeier, have been working on figuring out how to incorporate law library services into their public library service model. Both Courtney and Don are known to us so we did not have issues contacting them. We don't believe information seekers would have issues finding contact information as the library makes it clear how to access the law library through their online presence.

They have connected with other county law libraries and being a rural public library, they are reliant on other law libraries for remote resources and program opportunities. They see a need within their community to grow programming, outreach, and engagement opportunities but have not yet been able to realize their vision with limited resources.

The Tillamook Public Library receives the full appropriation and while it does cover the current items designated for law library services, the public library supplements the services offerings such as the room and technology for virtual hearing spaces as well as staff to help people navigate resources.

If funding remains the same, services will remain the same. If it is cut, resources will not be updated as frequently, but services will otherwise remain the same, in part due to the public library absorbing a lot of their service costs. However, if funding was doubled or tripled, they would look at adding designated law library staff, additional programs and outreach, increased marketing efforts, and additional e-resources. The level of these added services and resources would be dependent upon the level of increase.



# Umatilla County





# Umatilla County

Pendleton Public Library 502 SW Dorion Ave Pendleton OR 97801	(541) 966-0380 <a href="http://www.pendletonor.gov/library">www.pendletonor.gov/library</a>
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Law library services for Umatilla County moved to the Pendleton Public Library around August 2022. There is a designated area with a table, big sign, and shelving on the lower level of the library, accessed via a ramp. Westlaw and other online resources are available on their public computer terminals. The physical collection is easily accessible on shelves around the table. Despite the transition of the law library being so recent, patrons have already expressed a need for plain-language forms and directions in one place. While there isn't signage for the law library before you get to the station on the lower level, Pendleton Public Library does advertise the law library on their social media.

Catherine Campbell was recently hired to provide support for the law library specifically. Previously, the Assistant Director James Simpson, was the primary contact. While James and Catherine are the primary supporters, other library staff can assist with basic legal reference. James was quick to connect with other law libraries and while staff have not yet received in-depth legal reference training, they have started attending OCCLL meetings and asking questions of the group. This connection meant that we knew James and did not have any issues contacting the law library. There is enough of an online presence that we believe information seekers would be able to find information about law library services easily.

Pendleton Public Library has connected with other county law libraries and being a rural public library, they are reliant on other law libraries for remote resources and program opportunities. They hosted an open house when the law library had been transitioned and connected with local attorneys via email. They have tried to stay connected with the legal community, including Legal Aid and asked lawyers to do "Lawyer in the Library" programming, even offering them money. However, local attorneys unfortunately have not had the time to participate. James and Catherine are open and willing to collaborate with other law libraries and partner organizations, whether local or from a further distance, necessitating virtual options.

Pendleton Public Library receives the majority of the state appropriation for law library services in Umatilla County. However, this doesn't cover the full costs of services. The public library supplements the law library, such as providing 100 pages of free printing and technology, as well as staff assistance by people not designated for the law library. The remaining portion of the appropriation is used to pay for additional seats on the Westlaw subscription for the city and local court.

If funding remains the same, services will remain the same with the possibility for improved service with experience and greater legal community collaboration. If it is cut, the free printing may be reduced and the opportunity to pay presenters for programming could be diminished. If funding was doubled or tripled, they would look at adding a full-time designated law library staff, purchasing CLEs, and paying for continued education opportunities.



# Union County



# Union County

Eastern Oregon University Pierce Library 1 University Blvd La Grande, OR 97850	541-962-3579 <a href="https://library.eou.edu/">https://library.eou.edu/</a>
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The Union County Law Library is integrated into the Eastern Oregon University Library in La Grande. The library, including legal resources, is accessible to both students and the public. The law library resources include legal databases and primarily materials to be utilized by self-represented litigants. Entering the Eastern Oregon University library, as soon as you walk in you will see a large circulation desk with someone to help direct anyone coming in. The law library collection is interfiled with the university collection which allows the university to supplement the collection offerings. The legal databases can be used on any of the library patron computers.

Finding information about accessing the Union County Law Library was challenging. As county law librarians we knew that the law library was administered by the Eastern Oregon University library. We were unable to find reference to this online so if someone in Union County were to look for law library services, this may be challenging for them.

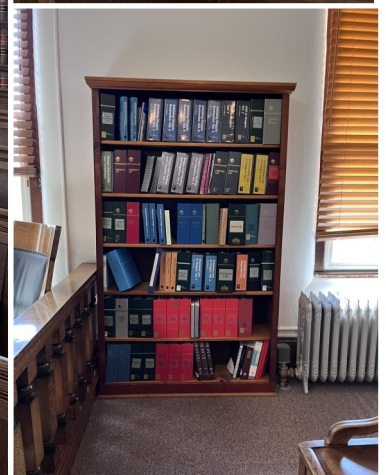
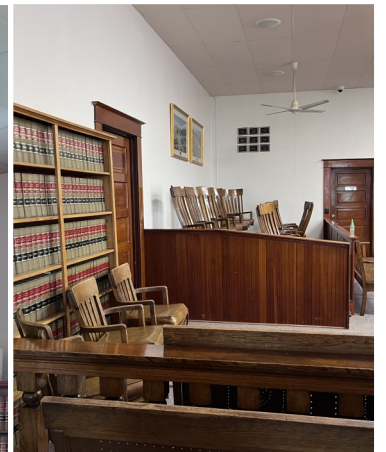
Eastern Oregon University administers the Union County Law Library through a Memorandum of Understanding between the DAs office, the local bar association, and Eastern Oregon University. While this could lead to increased opportunities for greater collaboration, this has not been the direction anyone has been able to capitalize on.

The law library services are known by the courts and the public library as both send people over. Sarah Rowland, assistant library director, is willing to partner with other county law libraries for remote programming and resources as well as advertising and sharing information on events that might interest the Union County community. Sarah is excited to have her staff become more integrated into the county law library community and participate in meetings and discussions.

The amount of the appropriation that the law library gets does not fully fund the law library resources and services. They spend the full budget they are given and then are supplemented by the university library. If they continue to receive the same funding, they are going to look to move more of their collection into digital resources and remove the print. They are also looking into having a computer terminal at the court or public library because they are concerned about ensuring access to all individuals in the county regardless of their permission to be on campus. If their funding were to be cut, they would reduce their offerings and the university would likely have to supplement more. If the appropriation were to increase, Sarah would look at hiring a designated law librarian.



# Wallowa County



# Wallowa County

Wallowa County Courthouse 101 S River Street Enterprise, Oregon 97828	(541) 426-4991
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The Wallowa County Law Library is located in the courtroom of the Wallowa County Circuit Court. The Circuit Court is in downtown Enterprise and can't be missed when driving along the main path through town. When entering the historic Wallowa County Circuit Court, information seekers are met with a stunning atrium with different county departments surrounding the central space. While there aren't wayfinding signs to the law library, there are signs to the courtroom. To access the law library, information seekers will go to the office next to the courtroom to get a key to unlock the courtroom. The law library is available when court is not in session.

The law library is not findable online but the court staff know how to access the law library. They are also able to contact Paige Sully, a local attorney who oversees the law library services. Paige has a historic collection that doesn't get used as much and shares the more recent reporters with the judiciary. Paige has focused her efforts on building and maintaining a self-help collection including BarBooks, with topics she sees being used most in Wallowa County.

The law library services are known by the courts and have been able to advertise through local word-of-mouth. Paige believes that partnering with local community public libraries can be helpful in sharing resources and helping public librarians refer people to the law library. She is willing to partner with other county law libraries for remote programming and resources as well as advertising and sharing information on events that might interest the Wallowa County community.

Paige does not receive the full appropriation for the Wallowa County Law Library; a portion goes to the courts. The appropriation does cover service levels, however, this is because Paige adjusts service levels to the portion of the appropriation she receives. Given these adjustments, if the appropriation stays the same or decreases, Paige doesn't believe a lot would change; she would just make decisions based on what she has available. If the appropriation were to increase, Paige would like to look at expanding services, especially to self-represented litigants. Paige sees the opportunity for programming and a self-help center with access to forms.



**Wasco County Courthouse Directory**

- **3<sup>rd</sup> Floor**
  - Circuit Courtroom Room 302
  - Circuit Court Filing Office/ Traffic Room 305
  - County Commissioners Room 302
  - Human Resources Room 302
  - District Attorney Room 304
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Floor**
  - Assessment & Tax Room 208
  - County Clerk Room 201
  - County Courtroom Room 202
  - Finance Dept. Room 207
  - Crime Victim's Assistance Room 206
  - ADA Accessible Restrooms available
- **1<sup>st</sup> Floor**
  - Employee & Administrative Services Room 101
  - Wasco County Sheriff (Entrance in alley, not accessible from elevator)
- **Basement**
  - Video Courtroom Room 801
  - Law Library Room 803
  - Callie Meeting Room Room 804
  - Discipline Meeting Room Room 808
  - ADA Accessible Restrooms Available



# Wasco County



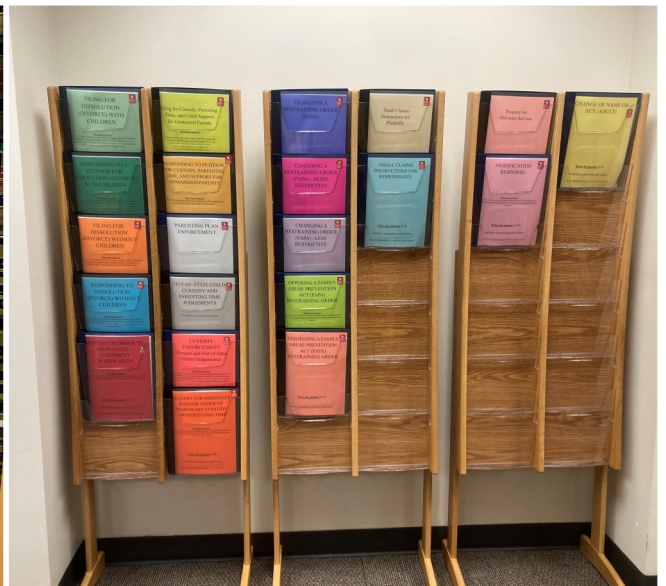
# Wasco County

Wasco County Courthouse 511 Washington Street The Dalles, Oregon 97058	(541) 506-2680
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The Wasco County Law Library is located in the basement of the Wasco County Courthouse in The Dalles. There are wayfinding signs inside the courthouse pointing information seekers in the right direction. In the law library, there are legal treatises on bookshelves, as well as a computer terminal. We were unable to get in contact with anyone in Wasco County to ask about law library services.



# Washington County





# Washington County

DeMar Batchelor Law Library 111 NE Lincoln St Suite 250 Hillsboro Oregon 97124	(503) 846-8880 <a href="mailto:lawlibrary@washingtoncountyor.gov">lawlibrary@washingtoncountyor.gov</a> <a href="https://www.washingtoncountyor.gov/law-library">https://www.washingtoncountyor.gov/law-library</a>
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The Washington County Law Library is located in downtown Hillsboro across the street from the Circuit Courthouse. There are wayfinding signs outside and inside the building making it easy to locate. As Amy Gregory, the Washington County Law Librarian, is one of the participants in this survey we did not have any issues getting in contact and scheduling a visit. However, the law library has an easily findable online presence with clear instructions on how to contact and find the law library. We do not believe that patrons would have any issues locating the law library through a simple search. Upon entering the law library, you will be greeted by friendly staff at the service desk that is visible from the doorway. The beginnings of a self-help collection has started with a court forms center directly to the left. The library has computer terminals with databases and open internet access. Among the shelves, you will find a robust collection of legal research materials for both attorneys and self-represented litigants. They also have a large collection of CLEs that bring lawyers in! The library's collection includes a digital collection started during the pandemic and continues through grant funding from the Library Foundation of Washington County.

The library has a meeting room that contains equipment for video conferencing and two other rooms that patrons can utilize along with mobile technology. Staff at Washington County help people navigate resources like databases, provide referrals, and even help to an extent with using the computer. Staff will also provide remote reference service through multiple avenues including a chat feature on their website.

Amy delivers resource training to law and public libraries alike, including in other counties when requested. The library also does legal webinars, such as the "Now What" series. This is a legal information program in which lawyers volunteer to educate the public about an aspect of the legal field. These webinars are recorded and put on the county's YouTube channel as a future resource for information seekers and are available freely to the public. They provide periodic seminars for the local bar association for CLE credit. Outreach is done with community events and resource fairs. She is an active member of OCCLL and always willing to partner with other law libraries. Amy works closely with the local bar, including putting together their newsletter.

The Washington County Law Library received the full appropriation. It does not currently cover the services provided at this time and is supplemented by grants and a reserve fund built in the age of direct filing fees and vacancy savings. This reserve fund will be exhausted in 2026. Due to this, if the appropriation remains the same or there are cuts, the library will have to make service, staff, and resource cuts accordingly dependent upon the appropriation. On the other hand, if the appropriation was doubled, the law library could be maintained at current service levels including services now provided by grant funding. With funding tripled, law library services could be expanded! Amy would like to provide greater services and resources to the public and local lawyers. This would include increasing staff, and the possibility of adding a lawyer.



# Wheeler County



# Wheeler County

Wheeler Circuit Court 701 Adams St Fossil Oregon 97830	
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The Wheeler County Law Library is located in the Wheeler Circuit Court building, which is shared with other county government offices in Fossil. To access the collection, one would need to check in with Court Operations. Marybeth Jaeger is the main contact but anyone in Court Operations can show information seekers the law library collection. This collection comprises many law books and it is spread throughout various departments and hallways in the entire building. Meriza Hansen in Hood River was also able to answer questions about Wheeler county. Staff in Wheeler county can show people the physical collection as well as directing people to online resources such as the OJD website and referring to the Oregon State Bar.

The law library does not currently partner with any other entities but being a small community, many people know about it through word-of-mouth. Meriza Hansen and Ellen Wagenaar are the primary individuals who oversee the Wheeler County Law Library. Ellen was very helpful in responding to inquiries and welcoming people to the law library and Meriza was able to talk more about the Wheeler County Law Library and would welcome training for others in the community, such as public librarians. Meriza would also appreciate collaborating with other county law libraries for access to remote resources and programming.

The portion of the state appropriation that goes to the law library currently funds the existing services. If funding were to remain the same or be reduced, law library services would look about the same as they do today. With double the funding, Meriza would like to see the law library have its own designated space and have a trained staff member to help people with their information needs. With triple the funding, in addition to having staff in a designated law library space, Meriza envisions expanding online access and resources, including someone to answer questions online and potentially partnering with public libraries.



# Yamhill County



# Yamhill County

Yamhill County Courthouse 535 NE 5th Street, Room 31 McMinnville, OR 97128	(503) 434-7444 <a href="mailto:bontam@co.yamhill.or.us">bontam@co.yamhill.or.us</a> <a href="https://www.co.yamhill.or.us/301/Law-Library">https://www.co.yamhill.or.us/301/Law-Library</a>
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The Yamhill County Law Library was relocated from a larger library to a smaller room within the basement of the courthouse a few years ago. The county courthouse is located in McMinnville. They do have a website with information on location and hours, which coincide with courthouse hours, and when library staff will be present. This online information made it easy for us to contact Mary Bonta, the Law Librarian, to coordinate access. There are clear wayfinding signs in the Yamhill Courthouse directing people to the law library. Additionally there is a clear sign on the law library door indicating its location. The law library has a collection of legal treatises and case reporters with some current editions of the Oregon Statutes as well. There is a designated area with self-help material including select NOLO books and Nutshells. The library offers access to Westlaw, and print materials for lawyers and nonlawyers alike. Mary also helps patrons get access to BarBooks Online. From the public terminal, patrons have the ability to print and scan. Mary offers guidance in research with further assistance as needed.

Mary partners with the courts to ensure there are signs in the courthouse to help direct patrons to the law library. Mary has not received requests for legal research training from outside organizations at this time. At present, Mary does not have the ability to support sharing of remote resources or programming provided by other law libraries or sharing of geographically close in-person events. She is not aware of other institutions in her community that might be interested in those sorts of partnerships. She keeps apprised of legal services in her community via research she does online.

The Yamhill County Law Library receives the full appropriation from the state for law library services and Mary reports that the appropriation covers the current services that they provide. If funding were cut, there would be more outdated material as new editions could not be ordered, and less printing and copying for free to patrons. If funding remains the same, the library and its services will remain as is. If funding is doubled or tripled, Mary would hopefully get the additional space the law library needs with more shelving and more books!

# Appendix

Table 1: County Law Library Service Provider Statistics

	Has an official website	Has a online presence for the law library	Publicly advertised phone number	Publicly advertised email address	Has self-help books in on-site collection	Has computers with open internet access	Subscribe to legal databases	Promotes remote reference services	Subscribes to ebooks	Provides programming	Conducts outreach	Located in the courthouse
Baker							x					x
Benton	x	x	x		x	x	x	x			x	
Clackamas	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	
Clatsop	x	x	x			x	x					
Columbia		x		x	x	x		x		x	x	
Coos							x					x
Crook	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	
Curry					x	x						x
Deschutes	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	
Douglas	x	x	x	x	x	x	x					x
Gilliam					x							x
Grant												x
Harney												x
Hood River												x
Jackson	x	x		x	x	x	x			x		x
Jefferson						x	x					x
Josephine	x	x	x			x	x					x
Klamath	x	x	x	x	x	x		x		x	x	
Lake						x	x					x
Lane	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x
Lincoln						x	x					
Linn	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	
Malheur					x	x	x					x
Marion	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x
Morrow												
Multnomah LL	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				
Multnomah LRC					x	x	x					x
Polk						x	x					x
Sherman	x	x					x					x
Tillamook	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			x	
Umatilla	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	
Union						x	x	x				
Wallowa					x							x
Wasco						x						x
Washington	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Wheeler												x
Yamhill	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				x

	Located in the public library	Part of the county and located outside of the courthouse	Administered by DA office	Administered by County Counsel	Outsourced administration	Own department within the county	Employs at least one full-time law library staff	Employs at least one part-time staff law library staff	Law library staffing provided on-request
Baker			x						x
Benton		x				x		x	
Clackamas		x				x	x		
Clatsop		x		x					x
Columbia		x			x			x	
Coos				x					x
Crook	x								
Curry			x						x
Deschutes	x							x	
Douglas						x		x	
Gilliam			x						x
Grant									x
Harney			x						x
Hood River			x						x
Jackson					x			x	
Jefferson			x						x
Josephine				x					x
Klamath	x							x	
Lake									x
Lane						x	x		
Lincoln		x				x		x	
Linn		x				x		x	
Malheur				x					x
Marion						x	x		
Morrow									
Multnomah LL		x			x		x		
Multnomah LRC					x				
Polk				x					x
Sherman			x						x
Tillamook	x								
Umatilla	x							x	
Union					x				
Wallowa									x
Wasco			x						x
Washington		x				x	x		
Wheeler			x						x
Yamhill						x		x	