

# LAW/JUSTICE



## Oregon Prison Population Grows

Could go much higher with new measures

Oregon's prison population was 13,405 on Jan. 1, having grown by 0.7 percent or 98 beds last year.

A state corrections population forecast expects the prison population to grow at a slightly faster rate this year, about 2.4 percent, or 317 beds to 13,722 inmates on Jan. 1, 2009.

The rate of growth in the prison population has gradually slowed from years earlier when Measure 11 imposed mandatory minimum sentences for

certain violent offenders. By comparison, the prison population grew by 15.7 percent in the 1999-01 biennium, 12.2 percent in 2001-03, 7.3 percent in 2003-05 and 4.9 percent in 2005-07.

Future changes to Oregon's sentencing laws—whether through the legislative process or ballot measures, can have immediate and substantial effects on correctional populations in the next few years.

Initiative Petition 40, which will appear on the November 2008 ballot, would substantially increase penalties for certain property crimes.

No official estimate of the initiative's impact is available, but the measure would lengthen

some prison sentences and send more offenders to prison rather than probation.

Similarly, Initiative Petition 131 would lengthen sentences for specified repeat sex crimes and for driving under the influence of intoxicants. Initiative Petition 132 would restrict the early release of felons, and would pose a potential risk to this forecast.

Senate Bill 1087 may also exert an impact on this forecast, if it receives voters' approval with more votes than Initiative Petition 40. It would increase terms of imprisonment for certain drug-trafficking crimes, as well as specified repeat property and identity theft crimes committed on or after Jan. 2, 2009.

A state report expects Oregon's prison population to grow 2.4 percent this year, but the figure could grow much faster in future years with initiatives on the November General Election ballot calling for the expansion of mandatory-minimum sentences.

## Fair Housing Act Turns 40

Complaints show lasting discrimination

More than 10,000 people filed housing-discrimination complaints last year, according to an annual report by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Forty-three percent of the complaints alleged discrimination against persons with disabilities while 37 percent alleged racial discrimination.

Most of complainants claimed to be victims of discrimination in the terms and conditions of the sale or rental of housing, or outright refusal to rent.

"Forty years after the passage



Kim Kendrick

need the protections this landmark law offers," said Kim Kendrick, HUD Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity. "This report underscores the importance of HUD's continued enforcement, education, and outreach activities to ensure that all Americans have equal access to housing opportunities."

One case resulted in a \$75,000 settlement for an African-American woman in California who was allegedly denied the opportunity to rent an apartment because of her race.

Another case resulted in a \$14,000 settlement for a woman in Illinois who was allegedly denied the opportunity to buy a townhouse because she has children.

A third case resulted in a \$10,000 settlement for a man with a disability in New Jersey who was denied an accessible parking space as a reasonable accommodation for his disability.

HUD's annual report was released at the beginning of National Fair Housing Month, which HUD celebrates every April to commemorate the anniversary of the signing of the Fair Housing Act.

This year the release coincides with the 40th anniversary of the enactment of the Fair Housing Act.

For those who believe they are the victims of housing discrimination, they should contact HUD at 1-800-669-9777. Additional information is available at [Hud.gov/fairhousing](http://Hud.gov/fairhousing).

## Portland Woman Missing after Argument

Reward offered

Detectives from the Portland Police Bureau Missing Persons Unit are asking for the public's help in locating 32-year-old Heather Dawn Mallory.

On Friday, March 7, Mallory attended school and worked her entire shift. After work, she spent the night socializing with several friends and arrived home at about 10:30 a.m., where she became involved in an argument with her husband, 35-year-old Brian Cole.

She reportedly left home awhile later and has not been seen or heard from since. She is the mother of a 3-year-old child and has no prior history of being missing.

Based on information obtained from family and friends, investiga-



Heather Dawn Mallory

tors believe it is highly unusual for her to remain out of contact. She has been described as professional and responsible in her work habits and having no history of mental illness.

Mallory was reportedly driving a bright red 2001 Ford Focus bearing Oregon license 061BZX. There is a black-colored bike rack on top

of the car and a child seat in the back seat. She is a 5-foot-5-inch, 120-pound white female with blonde hair and brown eyes.

Crime Stoppers is offering a cash reward of up to \$1,000 for information, reported to Crime Stoppers, that leads to a resolution in this case, and you remain anonymous. Call Crime Stoppers at (503) 823-HELP(4357).

## No Charges against Deputy

Who bragged of beating inmate

(AP)—No criminal charges will be filed against a Multnomah County sheriff's deputy who boasted in an Internet chat room that he beat a jail inmate.

But last week's decision from the district attorney's office clears the way for an internal-affairs investigation into the conduct of Deputy David B. Thompson, who works at the downtown jail.

Thompson had written of crushing an inmate's eye socket, one of many statements he posted on an Internet site he accessed on his work computer. He later confirmed to investigators the comment was a reference to a 2005 incident in which he hit jail inmate David M. Baker in the head and face.

He said Baker initiated the attack, an account supported by witnesses, according to the district attorney's memo dropping the case.

Baker protested at the time that he was attacked without provocation but still pleaded no contest to attempted assault of a public-safety officer. Interviewed again, Baker repeated his claim that Thompson initiated the attack but declined to take a polygraph examination, according to the district attorney's memo.

The internal investigation will determine whether Thompson's conduct violated restrictions on computer use as well as general conduct standards by bringing discredit on the sheriff's office.

County Chairman Ted Wheeler will have the final say on any punishment.

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