

Schools cont'd from pg 1

ment. On college campuses, the number of sexual attacks more than doubled from 2001 to 2013. "There's really no way to say whether those increases reflect an increase in actual forcible sex crimes or just that more people are coming forward and reporting

the 2013-2014 school year and more than 9 in 10 controlled access to their buildings. Schools also required students to wear IDs and mandated dress codes to try to make campuses safe.

"Our nation's schools should be safe havens for teaching and learning, free of crime and vi-

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them,” said Lauren Musu-Gillette, an author of the report.

Overall, the report showed progress, said Peggy G. Carr, acting NCES commissioner.

"Bullying is down, crime is down, but it's not enough," she said. Even before the report was issued, Ken Trump of the National School Safety and Security Services cautioned about reading too much into federal statistics on school crime.

"Federal and state stats underestimate the extent of school crime, public perception tends to overstate it and reality is somewhere in between," he said in a presentation to the Education Writers Association national conference in Boston.

He said in an interview that there is no mandated crime reporting for elementary, middle or high schools.

However, NCES' Musu-Gillette said the report was a nationally representative sample of school crime, taken in large part from surveys of students.

The report indicated that schools are taking steps to reduce crime.

About 75 percent used security cameras during

olence," the report said. "Any instance of crime or violence at school not only affects the individuals involved, but also may disrupt the educational process and affect bystanders, the school itself, and the surrounding community."

Trump called security cameras a quick fix that leads to a "false sense of security," and said there has to be a balance between the hardware and the human element of school safety. That includes having counselors and psychologists on hand and training staff to deal with bullying, verbal abuse and other threats.

He said too much focus is on the rare possibility of a shooting, rather than incidents that may occur daily. He asked, for example, whether schools know how to deal with a non-custodial parent trying to pick up a child.

"School administrators are a lot more pro-active about security than they were a decade ago," he said. He said social media and an overall awareness have made it "harder to hide things that occur in schools."

Read the full story at TheSkanner.com

ACLU cont'd from pg 1

of cases never go to trial as defendants make plea agreements.

The ACLU report outlines how district attorneys can choose to prosecute low level offenses or choose to put defendants into criminal diversion programs. A number of reform minded DAs were highlighted in the report such as Prosecuting Attorney Dan Satterberg representing King County in Seattle and John Chisolm, the district attorney of Milwaukee County in Wisconsin.

The MacArthur Foundation Racial and Ethnic Disparities report on Multnomah County found disproportionate treatment of African Americans at every level of the criminal justice system. Black people are charged with low level offenses like trespass, disorderly conduct and littering at three to five times the rate of White people.

"Right now, Black people are being charged with low level offenses at seriously disproportionate rates — at much

higher level than White people," Rogers said. "The district attorney's office has the discretion to stop doing that."

The report recommended four strategies to reform the criminal justice system through the district attorney's

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office:

To educate the public about the role of district attorneys and prosecutors.

To encourage more engagement between district attorneys and voters.

To cultivate district attorney candidates who want to reform the criminal justice system

To encourage the Governor to appoint reform minded district attorneys.

Kristen Grainger, the communi-

cations director for Governor Kate Brown, said the governor is very concerned about the overrepresentation of racial minorities, particularly Black men, in the criminal justice system.

Grainger said that Governor Brown has had the opportunity to appoint only one district attorney since taking office and a lot of thought goes into the process of choosing a new DA.

"In selecting district attorneys, when the occasion infrequently arises, Governor Brown makes decisions on a case by case basis. She seeks a diverse pool of applicants and selects the person she believes is best suited to serve that community's needs," Grainger told *The Skanner News*.

Kevin Neely, the spokesperson for the Oregon District Attorneys Associ-

particular, are faring in the current economic boom.

According to the U.S. Census' American Community Survey, household incomes in Oregon have remained nearly constant for the past 10 years, and while

Re-VIVE! 2016

On April 9, 2016, entrepreneur Kathy Kendrix joined forces with others to bring back a long-missed tradition – providing a special space for the empowerment, motivation, inspiration and reconnection of Black women. The Re-VIVE! 2016 Black Women's Empowerment Breakfast took place at the Portland City Center Courtyard Marriot Hotel. Pictured here are Revive! Inner Circle Ambassadors Debora Leopold Hutchins, Sheila Holden, Diana McKnight, Marie Larkins, Cynthia Harris, Antoinette Edwards and Joyce Harris.



PHOTO COURTESY OF KATHY KENDRIX

Employment cont'd from pg 1

employment rates and the unemployment gap between races was at its lowest point since the 2008 banking collapse.

Employment Department numbers show that unemployment in Oregon peaked in 2011 and the employment gap was particularly wide that year.

Where 9.4 percent of Oregonians were unemployed that year, the percentage of Black Oregonians reporting they were unemployed and looking for work was more than twice that: 21.3 percent.

While those numbers are encouraging, Tyler Mac Innis at the Oregon Institute for Public Policy notes that, for instance, a gender-based pay gap persists in Oregon that is worse for women of color.

For every dollar earned by White men in Oregon, African American women earn about 70 cents (where Oregon women in general make 82 cents for every dollar men do).

"When we look at the poverty

rates, when we look at what the typical African American woman is making alongside the white male dollar, some of those figures show that there's still a lot of work to be done," Mac Innis said.

While the percentage of Black

“For every dollar earned by White men in Oregon, African American women earn about 70 cents

Oregonians with jobs is higher than it has been in several years, it's unclear where African American workers are being hired, or what Black workers are earning.

While the Employment Department tracks the number of job vacancies — 41,000 — and the number of jobs being added to the economy, and surveys employers on their difficulty filling new jobs, it doesn't track demographic information on who is being hired for newly created positions.

But income data paint a more complex picture of how Oregonians, and Black Oregonians in

the average Oregon household brought in more in 2014 than it did during the worst part of the recession, real median household income was still lower that year than it was in 2005.

In 2005, real household income was \$52,060; in 2011, it was \$49,281; two years ago it was \$51,075.

But Black households bring in just a little more than half that amount: in 2013 the median household income for Black households was \$30,806.

Read the full story at TheSkanner.com

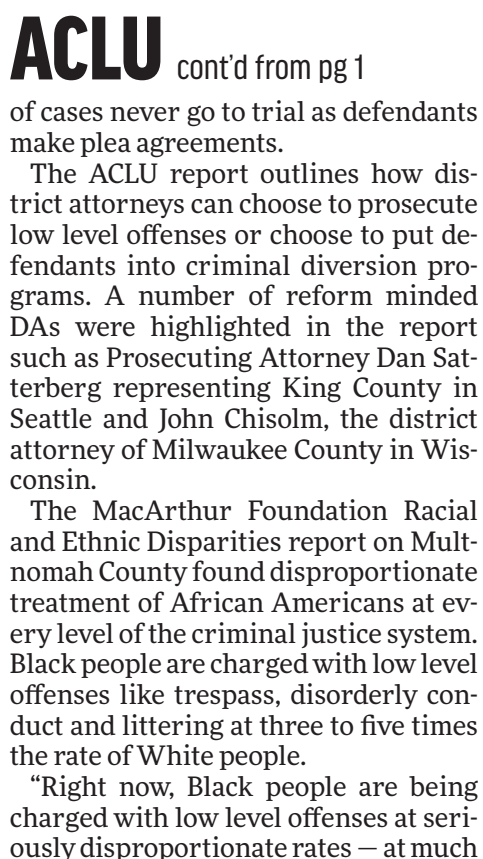


PHOTO ANOTHER BELIEVER (CC BY-SA 3.0) WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Nearly eight out of every 10 district attorneys faced no opposition on the ballot in six election cycles in Oregon, according to a report published by the Oregon ACLU in April.

ation, said there are very few qualified candidates for the position of district attorney.

Read the full story at TheSkanner.com