



Multnomah County Sheriff's Office

501 SE HAWTHORNE BLVD., Suite 350 • Portland, OR 97214

MICHAEL REESE
SHERIFF

Exemplary service for a safe, livable community

503 988-4300 PHONE
503 988-4500 TTY
www.mcso.us

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The Multnomah County Sheriff's Office primary mission is to work toward a safer community for all residents of the county. We do this in a variety of ways, including patrol and investigative policing functions and operation of the county jail system. In all of these roles, we follow state and federal laws.

The Sheriff's Office is not responsible for enforcing federal immigration policy. We are primarily responsible for local law enforcement. In this role, it is vital community members feel comfortable calling 911 to report crimes and to participate as witnesses and victims in our local system, without fear of that information being shared with ICE.

MCSO follows the direction of the Federal District Court of Oregon prohibiting local jail systems from honoring ICE detainers. Additionally, there are provisions of Oregon law which restrict our cooperation with federal immigration authorities. Sheriff Reese is firm in his commitment that he will not violate either federal or state law surrounding the enforcement of federal immigration policy.

The Priority Enforcement Program (PEP) has been presented to command and legal representatives of the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office. We have not agreed to any involvement in the PEP program because we believe the program is in conflict with Oregon law. Although the program name and forms have changed over the last 24 months, the basic principles of PEP are not compatible with our overall mission of making the community safe for all. Simply put, The Multnomah County Sheriff's Office does not hold persons in jail based upon their immigration status.

Additionally, the Sheriff's Office is involved in outreach efforts in our U Visa outreach program. In this program, Deputy Bickford interacts with community members and immigration rights advocates to ensure U Visa status is available to victims of certain crimes who are assisting law enforcement in the investigation or prosecution of those crimes. These outreach efforts are an example of our agency mission and direction in serving the needs of the immigrant community within the State of Oregon. Community trust is vital to performing our mission of safe, livable communities. I am committed to building and reinforcing your trust in the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office.

Sincerely,

Michael Reese
Sheriff