**Introduction**

This two-page executive summary and report is submitted to the Legislative Assembly pursuant to ORS 9.825. This statute requires that, every two years, the State Court Administrator survey the county law libraries and report to the Legislative Assembly regarding county law library services, not later than February 1 of each odd-numbered year.

**ORS 9.825 Law library surveys; reports.**

(1) The State Court Administrator shall conduct every two years an electronic survey of all county law libraries and the law library services provided by counties. The survey must request information on:

(a) The extent to which counties provide access to statutes, rules, cases, and other legal information, whether through printed materials or electronic access;

(b) Staffing in county law libraries;

(c) The number and types of persons who use county law libraries and other law library services;

(d) The hours that county law libraries are open, or access to law library services is available;

(e) The hours that law library staff assistance is available, either in person, by telephone, or through the Internet; and

(f) The extent to which persons who use county law libraries and law library services have free or low-cost public, on-site access to computers, printers, copiers, and other electronic devices provided by the counties.

(2) The State Court Administrator shall submit a report to the Legislative Assembly in the manner provided by ORS 192.245 based on each survey conducted under this section. The report must be delivered to the Legislative Assembly not later than February 1 of each odd-numbered year. [2011 c.224 §5]

**Survey Findings**

In October 2016, the State of Oregon Law Library (SOLL) in the Office of the State Court Administrator (SCA) solicited information from each of Oregon’s 36 counties. SOLL received responses from 31 counties. Five counties (Gilliam, Grant, Lake, Union, and Wallowa) did not respond to several requests for information.

In abbreviated form, the responses to the statutory questions are shown below for the 31 reporting counties. If a question was not answered by all, a lower response number will be listed.

1. The extent to which counties provide access to statutes, rules, cases, and other legal information, whether through printed materials or electronic access:

a. All counties have electronic access to current Oregon statutes through Fastcase. Further explanation of electronic access to state and federal statutes, both current and archived, is described in question 30 of the survey;

b. Of the 30 responses, 22 (73.3%) indicate that they have print statutes for the State of Oregon. Further explanation of print availability of statutes is described in question 20 of the survey;

c. All counties have electronic access to current Oregon administrative rules through Fastcase. Further explanation of electronic access to administrative rules, both current and archived, is described in question 33
of the survey;

d. Of the 22 responses, 15 (68.2%) indicate that they have current print administrative rules for the state of Oregon. Further explanation of print availability of administrative rules is described in question 26 of the survey;

e. All counties have electronic access to current Oregon case law through Fastcase. Further explanation of electronic access to case law is described in question 31 of the survey;

f. Of the 20 responses, 20 (100%) indicated access to current Oregon case law in print. Further explanation of print availability of case law is described in question 23 of the survey.

The types of resources and the format of their availability is described in question 6 of the survey.

2. **Staffing in county law libraries:**

   31 counties responded. Answers varied widely and were largely narrative but, it appears that 2 counties (Polk and Harney) report having no staff at all. Please see information in question 8 of the survey.

3. **The number and types of persons who use county law libraries and other law library services:**

   Of the 32 responders, 15 (46.9%) count patron type; 17 (53.1%) do not. See question 10 of the survey. Question 11 of the survey then explains the information collected, and question 12 of the survey provides estimates for those counties who do not specifically track that information.

4. **The hours that county law libraries are open, or access to law library services is available:**

   Question 14 of the survey explains that 11 (34.4%) of 32 responders indicated that their county law library is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, where the remaining 21 (65.6%) are not. Those that are not open the traditional hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, explain their hours further in question 14 of the survey.

5. **The hours that law library staff assistance is available, either in person, by telephone, or through the Internet:**

   Of the 30 responders, 9 (30.0%) provide assistance to patrons from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday; 21 (70.0%) do not. Those that do not provide staff assistance during the traditional hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, explain their services and methods of services further in question 16 of the survey.

6. **The extent to which persons who use county law libraries and law library services have free or low-cost public, on-site access to computers, printers, copiers, and other electronic devices provided by the counties:**

   The 32 responders use a variety of equipment to provide free or low-cost public access to law library materials as shown in question 18 of the survey; question 19 of the survey gives further detail about the specific cost.

Additionally, the Oregon Council of County Law Libraries has information on local and electronic resources on the Oregon Library Association website at: [http://oocll.org/](http://oocll.org/). A link to this summary and the full survey results for 2017, and those of previous years, may be found at: [http://soll.libguides.com/countylawlibrary](http://soll.libguides.com/countylawlibrary).