

The Oregon District Attorneys Association met today on the cusp of Oregon's 2021 Legislative Session to discuss Ballot Measure 11 mandatory minimum sentencing. The following is the position of the ODAA regarding this important sentencing tool.

The Oregon District Attorneys Association promotes public safety values that include accountability for offenders through truth and transparent sentencing as well as the protection of and advocacy for crime victims and their rights. Measure 11 is consistent with those values as it is a proven tool to keep Oregonians safe by establishing minimum sentences for the most violent crimes such as rape, violent assaults and child sex abuse. Oregon voters overwhelming passed Measure 11 in 1994 and approved it again in 2000. Over the past two decades, Measure 11 has helped decrease Oregon's violent crime rate to be among one of the lowest in the nation. Measure 11 provides crime victims and the community with certainty that violent criminals will be held accountable. While we believe it is always appropriate to discuss responsible reforms in our criminal justice system and we will engage with our public safety partners, our law makers and in our communities to do so, we strongly believe that Measure 11 should remain the law in order to keep Oregonians safe.

ODAA Value Statement:

Justice, Public Safety and Public Confidence in the Criminal Justice System Requires:

- Holding offenders accountable through truth and transparency in sentencing with appropriate sanctions
- The protection of and advocacy for crime victims and their rights
- A balanced approach to criminal justice, including adequate incarceration, proven treatment programs and crime reduction strategies
- Collaboration with community and public safety partners for a system-wide approach to safety and strong support for public safety infrastructure
- The promotion of equitable access to justice and equal treatment under the law