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Title: Crook County Seeks Clarification on Justice Center Operating Costs

Crook County, OR - October 4, 2023 - Crook County filed a complaint seeking a declaratory judgment against the Oregon Judicial Department on Monday, requesting a ruling on which party is responsible for maintenance and utility costs for the state court offices in the County's new Justice Center.

The Justice Center project was approved by the state to receive funding under Article XI-Q, which matches state bonds to the County's share for construction. The County and the Judicial Department have been working cooperatively on the project since its inception.

However, there is disagreement over the interpretation of the statute concerning the funding of ongoing operation and maintenance for the state court spaces once the Justice Center is completed. To resolve this, the County has filed a complaint requesting a declaratory judgment solely asking the Court for a binding legal interpretation of the law governing the state match program. The County has retained the services of John DiLorenzo of Davis Wright Tremaine LLP to represent Crook County in the matter.

Crook County officials emphasize that this filing seeks clarity on a specific legal issue, while actual construction on the Justice Center continues without disruption. The County aims for swift resolution of the matter before the Justice Center is completed.

Crook County officials will not provide additional comments on the ongoing litigation at this time. Updates regarding the case will be shared with the public as they become available.

For more information about Crook County, Oregon, and updates on the Crook County Justice Center, please visit [www.co.crook.or.us](http://www.co.crook.or.us).

About Crook County, Oregon: Crook County, located in the heart of Central Oregon, is known for its natural beauty, outdoor recreational opportunities, and a strong sense of community. The County is dedicated to providing excellent public services and ensuring the safety and well-being of its residents. The Crook County Justice Center represents a significant milestone in advancing these goals.