

Citizen Review Board

Background Notes

In 1985 Oregon created a statewide foster-care review program of citizen volunteers to help state courts ensure that case plans and services meet the needs of children in foster care and youth offenders in the custody of the Oregon Youth Authority. These citizen volunteers and the staff who support them are the Citizen Review Board, known as the CRB. The legislature purposefully placed the CRB in the state judicial branch under the direction of the Chief Justice of the Oregon Supreme Court, independent of the state's foster-care programs. The CRB checks and balances child-welfare and juvenile-justice agencies in Oregon's executive branch that serve Oregon's children, youth, and families.

Tasks / Assignments:

- Ask your supervisor for a couple of substitute care narratives to read. Review them noting the content and format. Discuss the timelines required by your office for completion of paperwork and the documentation required for submission.
- Read the information in the appendix from the CRB about when reviews occur. Find out when a case goes to court versus the CRB.
- Find out when the CRB reviews occur in your office and attend for a day. Note the difference between when reviews are easily managed and those that are more difficult.
- Read a CRB findings report. Note the recommendations and ask your supervisor what happens with the recommendations.

Discoveries:

- What points are covered in a CRB report?*
- How serious is the CRB review, what impact does it have on the plan, work?*
- How is the presentation organized? What is the format of the review? Who attends and when do they speak?*
- Talk with coworkers and your supervisor about the collaboration between the CRB and the office. How do they work together?*

