Memorandum Date: 5/11/10

Order Date: 6/9/10

To:

Lane County Board of Commissioners

Department:

Youth Services

Presented by:

Lisa Smith, Director

Title:

ORDER/IN THE MATTER OF NAMING a Courtroom in the

Department of Youth Services building in the honor of the Honorable

Kip Leonard

## I. MOTION:

Move approval of Board Order 10- to name Courtroom #2 in the Department of Youth Services building in the honor of the Honorable Kip Leonard.

### DISCUSSION: II.

### A. Background/Analysis

The Honorable Kip Leonard has served as the Juvenile Family Court judge in Lane County for 15 years. He has been recognized locally, nationally and internationally for his innovative approaches in working with youth and families. A particular success and passion of his has been in the area of drug and alcohol treatment. His development and support of the Recovery and Progress Court (RAP Court) was the first juvenile drug court introduced in the State of Oregon and has paved the way for this effective, strength-based approach to become the model by which other drug courts are held.

Judge Leonard's caring and compassion is felt throughout the juvenile/family court process. From cases involving juvenile delinquency to child welfare to adoptions, his knowledge of the law, commitment to effective services and the well-being of Lane County is always evident. It would be impossible to truly measure his success in terms of numbers of cases dealt with as they number in the thousands.

Judge Leonard was also critical in the development of the Serbu Youth Campus. With the announcement of his impending retirement it is fitting that the courtroom where he

spent so much of his career helping youth and families improve their lives be named in his honor.

In addition, a petition was circulated (a copy of which is attached) that is signed by over 80 individuals, who have worked with or been positively impacted by Judge Leonard.

# B. Recommendation

It is respectfully requested that the Lane County Commissioners, in honor of the services given by the Honorable Kip Leonard to the youth and families of Lane County, order that the courtroom designated as Courtroom #2 in the Lane County Department of Youth Services be named for Judge Kip Leonard.

# III. ATTACHMENTS:

- 1. Petition with signatures
- 2. Board Order

# IN THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR LANE COUNTY

ORDER AND RESOLUTION 10-\_\_\_\_\_ IN THE MATTER OF NAMING A
COURTROOM IN THE LANE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF
YOUTH SERVICES BUILDING IN THE HONOR OF THE
HONORABLE KIP LEONARD.

WHEREAS, Judge Kip Leonard has dedicated his life and career to the youth and families of Lane County, Oregon, having served as the Juvenile and Family Court judge for 15 years; and

WHEREAS, Judge Kip Leonard has used his knowledge and expertise to service the citizens of Lane County and the State of Oregon by developing and implementing the State of Oregon's oldest running Juvenile Drug Court; and

WHEREAS, the Lane County Board of Commissioners, in honor of service given by Judge Kip Leonard to the citizens of Lane County, hereby orders that the courtroom designated as Courtroom #2 in the Lane County Department of Youth Services shall hereinafter be named for the Honorable Kip Leonard.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Board of County Commissioners name Courtroom #2 after the Honorable Kip Leonard.

Bill I	Fleenor, Chai	r		
Lane	County Boar	d of Comn	nissioners	

Dated this day of June, 2010.

Date 5/21/10 land county

OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL

# PETITION TO URGE THE LANE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO NAME THE COURTROOM LOCATED AT THE LANE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH SERVICES AFTER THE HONORABLE KIP LEONARD IN RECOGNITION OF HIS SERVICE AND COMMITMENT TO THE YOUTH AND FAMILIES OF LANE COUNTY, OREGON

We, the undersigned, do hereby petition and urge the Lane County Board of
Commissioners to name the courtroom located at the Lane County Department of Youth
Services after the Honorable Kip Leonard in recognition of his service and commitment to the
youth and families of Lane County, Oregon. The following are just a few of compelling reasons
to recognize his service to the citizens of Lane County:

- He has served with dedication and distinction for 15 years on the Juvenile Court bench –
  a longevity record far surpassing any other judge.
- He was part of the design team that designed the entire Juvenile Justice Center and specifically worked with the architects to create the two court rooms.
- 3. His design input for the large courtroom created a courtroom that was family centered and youth centered. There is room for not only the defense and prosecution, but also for counselors, family members, and treatment providers.
- 4. There is a section where juveniles can watch their peers go through court and learn from that experience as well as their own experience.
- 5. Judge Leonard created the "Rap Court" (a juvenile drug court) that is a national model. He was able to serve as a consultant to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation as they created juvenile drug court models around the United States. His Rap Court was recently recognized for a ten year existence. A large number of parents and youth attended. The parents described how their child stopped using alcohol and drugs and how the entire family has benefited.

- 6. Judge Leonard handles child protective cases where he must weigh the rights of parents and the protection of a child. These are often heart breaking cases of abuse and neglect. He manages those cases with great compassion.
- 7. He also handles delinquency cases where he holds juveniles accountable for crimes, protects society and victims from further harm, and at the same time finds and supports the necessary counseling and rehabilitation to get the youth back on a track to success. He does this by supporting the family and building on the strengths the child has.
- 8. Parents, youth, department staff, attorneys, child advocates, and anyone connected to Juvenile Justice have great respect and admiration for the way Judge Leonard has improved the lives of families and youth in trouble.
- 9. Public funds will not be used in bestowing this honor. Private donations have and are being collected in order to commission a plaque designating the courtroom the "Kip Leonard Courtroom".

In support, please find our signatures below.

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