

# Community Oversight Advisory Board Application

## APPLICATION INFORMATION

### What is the Community Oversight Advisory Board?

The Community Oversight Advisory Board (“COAB”) is the group of individuals who will monitor the implementation of the City of Portland’s settlement agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice. The agreement calls for reform to Portland Police Bureau (PPB) policies and training, particularly related to interactions with people who have or are perceived to have mental illness.

The COAB will be comprised of fifteen voting members and five advisory members from the Portland Police Bureau. The Compliance Officer Community Liaison (“COCL”) will chair the COAB and preside over COAB meetings.

You can find more information on the COAB in the Settlement Agreement here:  
<http://www.portlandonline.com/shared/cfm/image.cfm?id=417899>.

You can find more general information on the Settlement Agreement here:  
<http://www.portlandoregon.gov/police/62044>.

### What will the COAB do?

- The COAB will:
  - Meet at least two hours each month to assess the implementation of the Settlement Agreement between the United States and the City of Portland. The total expected time commitment including homework is about 10 hours per month.
  - Make recommendations to the Parties and COCL re: changes to policy and/or practices as required to implement the Settlement Agreement.
  - Advise the Chief of Police, Police Commissioner and the City Council on community relations and police accountability.
  - Inform the community about the Settlement Agreement and its implementation.
  - In partnership with the City and COCL, survey community members about the Police Bureau’s community outreach and accountability efforts.
  - Work with the Police Bureau to develop and implement PPB’s Community Engagement and Outreach Plan.
  - Seek public comments and concerns, including at Town Hall meetings.
  - Evaluate the Police Bureau’s treatment of people in mental health crisis.
  - Evaluate the Police Bureau’s treatment of people based on perceived race and ethnicity.
  - Implement other specific tasks outlined in the Settlement Agreement and tasks the COAB develops on its own as they relate to the Settlement Agreement.

### Who can be a COAB member?

- People who live, work, or go to school in Portland.
- None of the fifteen voting COAB members can be current City employees nor have an actual or perceived conflict of interest with the City.

### How will COAB members be appointed?

- A COAB Selection Committee—with representatives from a diverse set of community organizations—will appoint five members from the pool of applicants submitting this application.
- The Portland Commission on Disability (PCoD) and the Portland Human Rights Commission (HRC) will each appoint a Commission member, and jointly appoint three additional community members who have mental health expertise. PCoD and HRC seek applicants who are Qualified Mental Health Professionals (“QMHP”) or persons with 10 years’ lived experience caring for their own or others’ mental illness. PCoD and HRC will consider people who fill out this

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application when making their appointments, but are not limited to choosing from the pool of applicants.

- Portland's five City Commissioners will each appoint one member. Commissioners may also consider people who fill out this application, but are not limited to choosing from the pool of applicants.

## What are the responsibilities of each COAB member?

- Commit to serve a two-year term on the COAB if you are selected (you may be reappointed for one additional year, if you are willing to continue on the Board).
- Dedicate considerable time to your role as a member, including reading material before meetings and attending multiple meetings. COAB membership is estimated to be an average 10 hour per month commitment.

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**To be considered, please complete this application.**

**Please note that COAB application submissions are public records, subject to disclosure upon request. The COAB Selection Committee will make their appointment selections in an open, public meeting, but effort will be made to protect sensitive information in public disclosure and discussion, to the extent allowed by law.**

The City strives to eliminate barriers that may prevent persons with disabilities from participating in City programs, services and activities. If accommodations or translations are needed to submit a COAB application, or you have any other questions, please contact Jasmine Wadsworth in Commissioner Fritz's office at 503-823-3008.

In recognition of the importance of the participation of persons with lived experience of mental illness in the COAB process, accommodations will be provided to ensure a safe environment that supports full participation of all COAB members.

The Chief of Police has directed the police advisory members of the COAB to attend the first meeting of the COAB in plain clothes.

**Please return your completed application by January 16. There are several options for submitting your application:**

FILL OUT AN ONLINE VERSION OF THIS APPLICATION BY JANUARY 16:

<http://bit.ly/COABapplication>

You can print the application below, pick up a copy at Commissioner Amanda Fritz's Office, or call Dora Perry at 503-823-3229 to request a paper copy by mail.

RETURN THE COMPLETED APPLICATION BY JANUARY 16:

EMAIL: [COAB@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:COAB@portlandoregon.gov)

MAIL or DROP OFF:

Commissioner Amanda Fritz's Office  
1221 SW 4<sup>th</sup>, Room 220  
Portland, OR 97204

If you have questions regarding the COAB or this application, please contact Jasmine Wadsworth in Commissioner Fritz's office at 503-823-3008 or email [COAB@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:COAB@portlandoregon.gov).

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*If accommodations or translations are needed to submit a COAB application, please contact Tim Crail at 503-823-3988 or [tim.crail@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:tim.crail@portlandoregon.gov).*

**NAME:**

**ADDRESS:**

**PHONE:**

**EMAIL:**

**BEST WAY & TIME TO REACH YOU:**

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COAB members may be appointed solely based on the content of this application. The Portland Commission on Disability, the Human Rights Commission, the COAB Selection Committee, and City Commissioners are striving to create a COAB that represents a reasonably broad spectrum of the Portland community and a variety of perspectives. **When answering the following questions, please share what you feel will help the selection bodies understand your background, your interest in the COAB and issues of mental illness and police accountability, and the perspective you would bring as a member of this citizen oversight body.** You may use the space provided, attach additional sheets, or send a summary response that addresses the questions below.

**Please mark the boxes that are applicable to you:**

- I have reviewed the APPLICATION INFORMATION above, and I understand the role of the COAB and a COAB member's responsibilities.
- I understand that COAB application submissions are public records, subject to disclosure upon request. Effort will be made to protect sensitive information in public disclosure and discussion.
- I live, work, or go to school in Portland.
- COAB members will be notified of appointment by January 23. If appointed, I will make every reasonable effort to attend the February 2 COAB training and February 9 first meeting.
- I am a Qualified Mental Health Professional ("QMHP") or a person with 10 years' lived experience caring for my own or others' mental illness, and would like to be specifically considered for one of three COAB seats reserved for members with mental health expertise. If applicable, please share more about your professional and/or lived experience with mental illness:

[TURN OVER FOR QUESTIONS]

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1. The DOJ Settlement agreement calls for the COAB membership to represent a “reasonably broad spectrum of the community, such as: areas of expertise, advocacy experience, community involvement, profession, education, race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, age, religion, mental or physical disability and geographic identification.”

As the selection bodies strive to appoint a representative COAB, what would you like them to know about you?

2. The COAB’s work will focus on issues of mental illness, equity for people experiencing psychiatric disabilities and/or in mental health crisis, issues faced by people of color and ethnic minorities, police use of force and police accountability.

Please describe your familiarity, interest, and/or experience with any or all of these issues.

3. The COAB is assigned many specific tasks in the DOJ settlement agreement, and must routinely meet deadlines. This will require teamwork and collaboration amongst members. Please describe your approach to working in a team, including ability to problem solve, and respectfully work through conflicting opinions. What experience do you have volunteering with City or community boards? What makes an effective committee?