



**NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING**  
INCLUDING STATEMENT OF NEED & FISCAL IMPACT

CHAPTER 291  
**DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**

**FILED**  
03/26/2026 11:43 AM  
ARCHIVES DIVISION  
SECRETARY OF STATE

FILING CAPTION: Suicide Prevention

LAST DAY AND TIME TO OFFER COMMENT TO AGENCY: 05/20/2026 12:00 PM

*The Agency requests public comment on whether other options should be considered for achieving the rule's substantive goals while reducing negative economic impact of the rule on business.*

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Filed By:  
Julie Vaughn  
Rules Coordinator

**HEARING(S)**

*Auxiliary aids for persons with disabilities are available upon advance request. Notify the contact listed above.*

DATE: 04/29/2026

TIME: 2:00 PM

OFFICER: Julie Vaughn

**REMOTE HEARING DETAILS**

MEETING URL: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

PHONE NUMBER: 1-971-277-2160

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

Meeting URL: <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/26236342745426?p=OyG3cCSJc7nIVkiS5U>

Meeting ID: 262 363 427 454 26

Passcode: Hn7GJ3tV

Dial in by phone: +19712772160,,446988573

Phone Conference ID: 446 988 573#

**Sign Up to Present:**

- Only individuals who have signed up to give testimony will be called to speak during the hearing.
- To sign up, please email [DOC.RulesCoordinator@doc.oregon.gov](mailto:DOC.RulesCoordinator@doc.oregon.gov) at least 24 hours before the hearing.
- Be sure to include your name, address, and affiliation (this information is required under OAR 137-001-0030).
- You can sign up at the start of the hearing but are encouraged to pre-register to reserve time during the hearing for the presentation of testimony.

**Presenters:**

- Each speaker will have 3 minutes to testify.
- Please be ready to keep your comments within that time.
- You may need to summarize your points.

Hearing Info:

- The hearing will end once everyone who signed up has had a chance to speak.
- To listen in without testifying, you can call:  
☎ 971-277-2160  
☎ Phone Conference ID: 923 356 145#

Submit Written Comments to the DOC Rules Coordinator by:

- Mail:  
Rules Office  
3723 Fairview Industrial Dr. SE #200  
Salem, OR 97302
- Email: [DOC.RulesCoordinator@doc.oregon.gov](mailto:DOC.RulesCoordinator@doc.oregon.gov)
- Online Form: [www.oregon.gov/doc/rules-and-policies/Pages/Submit-a-Comment.aspx](http://www.oregon.gov/doc/rules-and-policies/Pages/Submit-a-Comment.aspx)

All written comments must be received by 12:00 PM (noon) on May 20, 2026.

Comments received after the deadline won't be considered.

Need accommodations? Please contact the DOC Rules Coordinator at least 72 hours before the hearing.

Questions? Please email [DOC.RulesCoordinator@doc.oregon.gov](mailto:DOC.RulesCoordinator@doc.oregon.gov).

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NEED FOR THE RULE(S)

These rule amendments are needed to establish a new process for the review of an unexpected death of an adult in custody (AIC), including a death that is suspected to be caused by, related to, or associated with an act of self-harm.

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DOCUMENTS RELIED UPON, AND WHERE THEY ARE AVAILABLE

None.

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STATEMENT IDENTIFYING HOW ADOPTION OF RULE(S) WILL AFFECT RACIAL EQUITY IN THIS STATE

The Department of Corrections anticipates that the proposed amendments to the department's rule on the review of incidents involving suspected self-harm, OAR 291-076-0040, will have a positive impact on racial equity in the state of Oregon.

The proposed amendments to OAR 291-076-0040, Suicide Prevention in Correctional Facilities - Review of Incidents Involving Suspected Self-Harm, establish guidelines for the department's review of the unexpected death of an adult in custody, including a death that is suspected to be caused by, related to, or associated with an act of self-harm. Together with updates to the department's rules on Death (AIC), these changes will create a comprehensive and equitable death review process that ensures consistent and fair review of all adult in custody deaths. OAR 291-027-0100(4), in particular, which provides for a report that may include "any recommended changes in practices, policies, or procedures to strengthen safety and health protections for adults in custody and to reduce risk of adult in custody death or serious injury," is a review process to improve outcomes and safety for adults in custody, which could have a positive impact on racial equity to the extent that incarcerated persons are disproportionately represented on the basis of race as compared to those in the community.

For these reasons, the department anticipates that these changes will have a positive impact on racial equity in this state.☎

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FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT:

These amendments removes references on OAR 291-076-0040 to "Suicide Review" and establishes a Unexpected

Death Review will be conducted for all AIC deaths suspected to be caused by self-harm. Redefines OAR 291-076-0040 as "Review of Incidents Involving Suspected Self-Harm."

DOC anticipates rule change will modify training but that the changes will have no fiscal impact the department, AICs, partners, and the general public.

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**COST OF COMPLIANCE:**

(1) Identify any state agencies, units of local government, and members of the public likely to be economically affected by the rule(s). (2) Effect on Small Businesses: (a) Estimate the number and type of small businesses subject to the rule(s); (b) Describe the expected reporting, recordkeeping and administrative activities and cost required to comply with the rule(s); (c) Estimate the cost of professional services, equipment supplies, labor and increased administration required to comply with the rule(s).

None.

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**DESCRIBE HOW SMALL BUSINESSES WERE INVOLVED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THESE RULE(S):**

Small businesses were not involved in the development of these rules as they will not be impacted by these rules.

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**WAS AN ADMINISTRATIVE RULE ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSULTED? NO IF NOT, WHY NOT?**

The department has determined that use of an advisory committee would have not provided any substantive assistance in drafting these rule revisions because the changes are minor and of a technical nature.

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AMEND: 291-076-0040

RULE SUMMARY: Amends rule to align with the newly defined Unexpected Death Review process on OAR 291-027.

**CHANGES TO RULE:**

291-076-0040

Review of Incidents Involving Suspected Self-Harm ¶

~~(1) Suicide Review: If a suicide occurs, a formal suicide review will be completed as assigned by the Inspector General, including a review of the inmate's Health Services files, related materials, and interviews of staff.¶~~

~~(a) The actual review of the Health Services files, related materials, and interviews of staff will be conducted by a multi-disciplinary team comprised of an assigned Special Investigations Unit manager, Assistant Superintendent of Security, Medical Services manager and Behavioral Health Services manager from a facility other than the facility where the suicide occurred.¶~~

~~(b) The Inspector General will appoint the chair of the team.¶~~

~~(c) The team will write a review and submit it to the Inspector General.¶~~

~~(d) The Inspector General will submit the review to the Director, Deputy Director, Assistant Director for Operations, Health Services Administrator, Behavioral Health Services Administrator, and the functional unit manager where the suicide occurred.¶~~

~~(2) Attempted Suicide Review: In the event of the unexpected death of an adult in custody, including a death that is suspected to be caused by, related to, or associated with an act of self-harm, the Inspector General will conduct an Unexpected Death Review in accordance with the department's rules on Death (AIC) (OAR 291-027).¶~~

~~(2) The Director, Deputy Director, Inspector General, Assistant Director of Health Services Administrator, Assistant Director of Operations, or Behavioral Health Services Administrator may request a formal review from a multi-disciplinary team, as described in (1) above for, or of any suicide attempt incident involving suspected self-harm by an adult in custody that presented a substantial risk of serious injury or death.~~

Statutory/Other Authority: ORS 179.040, 423.020, 423.030, 423.075

Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 179.040, 423.020, 423.030, 423.075