



STATEMENT IN RESPONSE TO *BEND BULLETIN* ARTICLE, “STATE POLICE CONDUCTING INQUIRY INTO EXAMINER AT PORTLAND LAB

June 23, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

“Oregon Innocence Project is concerned to hear of further issues at Oregon’s state crime labs. Today’s article from the *Bend Bulletin* claims an analyst at Oregon State Police’s Portland lab altered a hit report after it was produced to conceal his failure to identify a fingerprint match at the first opportunity. It is to OSP’s credit that they have identified the problem and acted to address it. But this is just one of many incidents of which we are aware in a troubling pattern of problems at Oregon’s state crime labs. These incidents have occurred at multiple labs and in multiple forensic disciplines. It is essential for the restoration of public confidence that the Governor’s Work Group on the labs initiates a full scale review and audit to scrutinize the policies, practices and sciences used. Ultimately, we believe only independent oversight of the OSP labs will provide a lasting solution to these problems.”

To be attributed to Bobbin Singh, Executive Director, Oregon Justice Resource Center (Oregon Innocence Project is a program of the OJRC)

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