



STATEMENT FROM OREGON JUSTICE RESOURCE CENTER REGARDING
REPORTS THAT A COFFEE CREEK CORRECTIONAL FACILITY OFFICER HAS BEEN
CHARGED WITH OFFENSES RELATING TO A SEXUAL RELATIONSHIP WITH AN
INMATE

10/13/16

“We’re deeply concerned to hear of allegations of yet another incident of this type occurring at Coffee Creek. The facility has a well-documented history of problems with inappropriate relationships between staff and the women who are imprisoned there. While the details of this particular situation are not yet public – and Officer Mickles has not been convicted – we think it’s important to highlight that sexual relationships between inmates and staff are illegal with good reason. Even in cases where a relationship may be consensual on its face, there is in fact no such thing as true consent. This is because the imbalance of power between correctional officers and women is so great and there’s significant risk to the women of negative consequences for a relationship gone wrong.”

Statement to be attributed to Julia Yoshimoto, Women in Prison Project Director and Attorney, Oregon Justice Resource Center.

Contact Alice Lundell, Director of Communication, Oregon Justice Resource Center, 503-563-3356/alice@ojrc.org for more information.