



# Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

## Oregon Youth Authority

530 Center Street NE, Suite 200  
Salem, OR 97301-3765  
PHONE: (503) 373-7205  
FAX: (503) 373-7622

**For immediate release:** July 7, 2009

**Contact:** Perrin Damon, Public Affairs Manager  
503-378-6023, 503-931-4300  
perrin.damon@state.or.us

### CU alum to lead Oregon state agency

In a [July 6, 2009 news release](#), Oregon Governor Ted Kulongoski announced the appointment of Colette S. Peters, class of 1997, to lead the Oregon Youth Authority.

The Oregon Youth Authority is the state juvenile corrections agency responsible for incarcerating youth who cannot safely live in the community, and providing supervision and treatment opportunities to youth offenders in all 36 Oregon counties.



**Colette S. Peters**

In making the announcement, Kulongoski said, "Colette has experience in many facets of public safety, but her enduring passion is working with youth, where she started her career. Furthermore, she has a solid foundation in organizational leadership, an exceptional understanding of government ethics, and has built enduring partnerships in the criminal justice community."

Peters was assistant director and inspector general of the Oregon Department of Corrections between 2005 and late 2008, when she moved to the Midwest. Before that she was the Department of Corrections Public Affairs administrator, a research and policy associate with the Colorado Legislature, a victim's advocate and crisis mediator with the Denver Police Department, and a juvenile counselor in a boy's shelter in Minneapolis and in a residential treatment center in Johnston, Iowa.

Peters holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from the College of Saint Benedict in Minnesota and a master's degree in criminal justice from the Graduate School of Public Affairs at the University of Colorado.

The Oregon Youth Authority achieves its public safety goals by holding youth accountable and providing reformation opportunities to youth offenders in safe environments. It provides a continuum of services including probation, residential placement, foster care, incarceration and parole to protect the public, rehabilitate youth and reduce juvenile crime. Services emphasize decisive intervention in delinquent behavior, certain sanctions for crimes committed by youth, restitution to victims, and effective and innovative rehabilitation programs for youth offenders.

Peters will provide leadership for approximately 1,100 employees who supervise more than 2,000 youth in the community on probation or parole or in ten youth correctional facilities. The agency's two-year budget is \$266 million. Peters' appointment is effective July 20, 2009 pending state senate confirmation in the fall.