

In January 2013 I was called to the Madison Avenue Meeting Room at 500 SW Madison Ave in Corvallis for a deposition regarding a civil rights lawsuit I was involved in against a Corvallis PD officer (6:12-cv-01808-MC Hall v. Dodge). During my deposition the officer I was suing decided to use ORS 166.380, the ability to inspect a firearm in a public building, as a form of harassment against me. This took place despite the fact that he and the other officers involved knew I had a concealed handgun license (CHL) and could legally carry a firearm in the building. During the inspection, Corvallis Police Lieutenant Todd Bailey pointed my loaded handgun across a city street, toward a parking lot and an occupied building. I recorded video of the interaction that you can view here: <http://youtu.be/NgFnBql2OE8>

I believe removing a loaded handgun from a holster in a public building serves no legitimate purpose when the armed individual has a valid Oregon CHL. In my case, the lieutenant mishandled my firearm and endangered the lives of nearby citizens for no reason other than to harass myself. The officers present never asked to see my CHL, so they clearly knew I could lawfully carry a firearm into that building, otherwise I would have been arrested.

SB 173 is a common sense change to ORS 166.380 that will strengthen the safety of Oregonians everywhere while preventing pointless harassment by law enforcement against law-abiding citizens. I'll honestly be surprised if there is any opposition to this bill.

Thank you,  
Kevin M. Hall  
Monroe, OR