

Chapter 18

1985 REPLACEMENT PART

Judgments and Decrees

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**DOCKETING; RECORD; LIEN;
SATISFACTION**

18.310 [Amended by 1967 c.471 §1; repealed by 1979 c.284 §199]

18.320 Docketing of judgment or transcript. Immediately after the entry of judgment in any action the clerk shall docket the judgment in the judgment docket, noting thereon the day, hour and minute of such docketing. With respect to any judgment docketed in a circuit court judgment docket, at any time thereafter, so long as the original judgment remains in force under ORS 18.360, and is unsatisfied in whole or in part, the judgment creditor, or in case of death,

a representative, may file a certified transcript of the original docket in the office of the clerk of the circuit court for any other county in this state. Upon filing, the clerk shall docket the certified transcript in the circuit court judgment docket, noting thereon the day, hour and minute of such docketing. A certified transcript of the new docket entry of a judgment renewed under ORS 18.360 may likewise be filed and docketed in another county. A certified transcript of the new docket entry of a judgment renewed under ORS 18.360 must be filed and docketed in another county in order for that judgment to be a lien upon the real property of the judgment debtor in that county. [Amended by 1961 c.151 §1; 1983 c.405 §1; 1983 c.696 §3; 1985 c.343 §1]

Note: See note following 18.360.

18.330 [Repealed by 1959 c.558 §29 (18.335 enacted in lieu of 18.330)]

18.335 Trial court file. In every proceeding, the clerk shall attach together, file and maintain in the office of the clerk until all actions in such proceeding have been completed and any judgment entered in such proceeding either has expired or has been satisfied, in the order of their filing, all the original papers filed in the court, whether before or after judgment, including but not limited to the summons and proof of service, pleadings, motions, affidavits, depositions, stipulations, orders, the judgment and the notice of appeal and the undertaking on appeal, if any. [1959 c.558 §30 (enacted in lieu of 18.330), 1979 c 284 §54, 1983 c.405 §2]

18.340 [Repealed by 1959 c.558 §51]

18.350 Lien of judgment; undertaking in lieu of lien; filing satisfaction of judgment required. (1) From the time of docketing an original or renewed judgment or the transcript thereof, as provided in ORS 18.320, such judgment shall be a lien upon all the real property of the judgment debtor within the county or counties where the same is docketed, or which the judgment debtor may afterwards acquire therein, during the time prescribed in ORS 18.360.

(2) When an appeal is taken from any judgment and an undertaking on appeal is filed, with a surety corporation licensed to do business in Oregon as surety on such undertaking, to the effect that if the judgment or any part thereof shall be affirmed the appellant will satisfy it so far as affirmed, the lien of the judgment shall cease and be annulled upon the expiration of the time allowed to except to the surety in the undertaking or upon the justification thereof, if excepted to, and that fact shall be noted upon the judgment

docket over the signature of the officer having custody of such docket.

(3) When the lien of a judgment ceases in the county in which the judgment was originally docketed, it shall cease in every county in which a transcript thereof has been docketed or recorded under chapter 696, Oregon Laws 1983. When such judgment has been fully satisfied, it shall be the responsibility of the judgment creditor to file a full satisfaction in the county in which the judgment was originally docketed and in every county in which a transcript thereof has been docketed or recorded. The clerk of the court shall not charge a fee for filing a satisfaction of judgment. [Amended by 1961 c.151 §2; 1983 c 405 §3; 1983 c 696 §3a; 1985 c.343 §2]

18.360 Expiration of judgment and lien; renewal. Whenever, after the entry of a judgment, a period of 10 years elapses, the judgment and any lien thereof shall expire. However, before the expiration of 10 years the circuit or district court for the county in which the judgment originally was entered, on motion, may renew the judgment and cause a new entry and docketing of the judgment to be made. The renewed judgment and any lien thereof expire 10 years after entry of the renewed judgment. Execution may issue upon the renewed judgment until the judgment expires or is fully satisfied. [Amended by 1983 c 405 §4; 1983 c 696 §32a, 1985 c.343 §3]

Note: Sections 11 and 12, chapter 343, Oregon Laws 1985, provide:

Sec.11. (1) Notwithstanding the changes made to ORS 18.320 and 18.360 by sections 1 and 3 of this Act, when a certified transcript of the original docket entry of a judgment or the new record entry of a judgment renewed under ORS 18.360 was recorded in a County Clerk Lien Record between October 1, 1983, and October 1, 1985, under chapter 696, Oregon Laws 1983, the judgment is a lien upon all the real property of the judgment debtor within the county for which the County Clerk Lien Record is maintained, or which the judgment debtor may afterwards acquire in that county, during the time prescribed in ORS 18.360. If a court of competent jurisdiction rules that a judgment so recorded is not a lien as of the time it was recorded, the judgment shall be a lien as described in this subsection from the effective date of this Act [July 3, 1985].

(2) Notwithstanding chapter 696, Oregon Laws 1983, when a certified transcript of the original docket entry of a judgment or the new record entry of a judgment renewed under ORS 18.360 was docketed in a judgment docket between October 1, 1983, and October 1, 1985, the judgment is a lien upon all the real property of the judgment debtor within the county, or which the judgment debtor may afterwards acquire in that county, during the time prescribed in ORS 18.360. If a court of competent jurisdiction rules that a judgment so docketed is not a lien as of the time it was docketed, the judgment shall be a lien as described in this subsection from the effective date of this Act.

Sec. 12. (1) When a certified transcript of the original docket entry of a judgment was recorded in a County Clerk Lien Record between October 1, 1983, and October 1, 1985, if the judgment creditor renews the judgment under ORS 18.360, the certified transcript of the new docket entry of the renewed judgment shall be filed and docketed in the judgment docket of the county

(2) When a certified transcript of the original docket entry of a judgment was recorded in a County Clerk Lien Record between October 1, 1983, and October 1, 1985, a certificate obtained under ORS 18.400 showing the fact of satisfaction of the judgment shall be entered upon the same County Clerk Lien Record.

18.370 Priority of lien over unrecorded conveyance. A conveyance of real property, or any portion thereof, or interest therein, shall be void as against the lien of a judgment, unless such conveyance be recorded at the time of docketing such judgment, or the transcript thereof, as the case may be.

18.380 [Repealed by 1985 c.343 §14]

18.390 [Amended by 1961 c.151 §3; 1983 c.696 §4; repealed by 1985 c.343 §14]

18.400 Record of satisfaction or assignment of judgment; fee; support orders. (1) Subject to subsection (5) of this section, when any judgment is paid or satisfied, that fact may be noted upon the judgment docket of original entry over the signature of the officer having the official custody of such docket, or of the party entitled to receive and receiving payment or satisfaction, or of the attorney or attorneys representing the judgment creditor in the suit, action or proceeding in which the judgment was rendered; provided, such satisfaction shall not be made by an attorney whose authority over the judgment has expired. Upon annulment or payment or satisfaction and entry thereof being so made, the officer having the official custody of the judgment docket of original entry shall, upon request of any person and payment of the applicable fee, issue a certificate showing the fact of satisfaction of such judgment, or annulment of the lien thereof, describing the same sufficiently for identification; and such certificate shall, upon presentation to the officer having official custody of the judgment docket in any county in which a transcript of such judgment may have been docketed, be entered upon such docket for the purpose of making the satisfaction of judgment a matter of record in such county.

(2) Evidence of the satisfaction of any judgment may also be perpetuated by the execution and acknowledgment by the judgment creditor, or the assignee or personal representative of the judgment creditor, of a certificate describing the judgment with convenient certainty, and specify-

ing that the judgment has been paid or otherwise satisfied or discharged. Such certificate shall be acknowledged or proved and certified in the manner provided by law for conveyances of real property, and may be recorded in the record of deeds of any county or counties, upon payment of the same fees as for recording a deed. In case such judgment has been entered in the judgment docket of the circuit court of any such county, the official custodian of such docket shall, upon filing of such certificate of annulment or satisfaction, make notation thereof in the judgment docket. The procedures authorized by this subsection may be used only when the judgment does not arise pursuant to a support order entered under ORS 108.010 to 108.550, 416.010 to 416.270, 416.310 to 416.340 and 416.510 to 416.990 or ORS chapter 107, 109, 110 or 419 which directs that payments are to be made to the Department of Human Resources.

(3) An assignment of any judgment, executed in like manner, may be filed:

(a) With the official custodian of the judgment docket of any county in which the judgment has been docketed, and upon such filing shall be docketed therein;

(b) With the official custodian of the deed records of any county and upon such filing shall be recorded therein; or

(c) With the county clerk of any county in which the judgment was recorded in the County Clerk Lien Record under chapter 696, Oregon Laws 1983, and upon such filing shall be recorded therein.

(4) In any case in which a state agency is assigned or subrogated to the support rights of a person under ORS 418.032, 418.042 or 419.513 or similar statutes of another state, a notice of assignment of judgment bearing the signature of the Administrator of the Support Enforcement Division or the authorized representative of the administrator shall be entitled to record, and with like effect, as an assignment of judgment under subsection (3) of this section.

(5) In cases where support payments ordered under ORS 416.010 to 416.270, 416.310 to 416.340 and 416.510 to 416.990 or ORS chapter 107, 108, 109, 110 or 419 are to be paid to the Department of Human Resources, any full or partial satisfaction of a support payment judgment signed by an obligee or an attorney representing the obligee must be mailed to or delivered to the Department of Human Resources, and not to the clerk of the court. The Department of Human Resources may provide support satisfaction forms, along with specific instructions. No

credit shall be given for such support satisfaction except as provided by this subsection. The department shall credit such support satisfaction to the support judgment pay records maintained by the department, except to the extent that the judgment is assigned to the Department of Human Resources or its divisions. The department shall then promptly forward the satisfaction instrument to the appropriate clerk of the court together with a Department of Human Resources certificate stating the amount of support satisfaction entered on the pay records of the department. The clerk of the court shall enter on the judgment docket only the amount of the support satisfaction shown on the Department of Human Resources certificate, and not the amount shown on the satisfaction instrument. Nothing in this subsection shall prevent the Department of Human Resources or its attorney, in their discretion, from signing and mailing or delivering to the department a full or partial satisfaction of a support payment judgment to the extent that such judgment is assigned to the department. All other satisfactions of judgments shall be mailed or delivered to the clerk of the court, and not to the Department of Human Resources. [Amended by 1965 c.619 §7; 1979 c.694 §1; 1983 c.696 §5; 1985 c.343 §4; 1985 c.496 §18; 1985 c.610 §2]

18.405 Notice of satisfaction of support judgment. At least five days prior to any application to the circuit court for an order fully or partially satisfying a support judgment, if aid, as defined in ORS 418.035 (2), is or has been granted to or on behalf of any person who is entitled to support pursuant to the support order, then a true copy of all papers to be submitted as part of such application shall be served by personal delivery or first-class mail on the Administrator of the Support Enforcement Division or on the branch office of the division which provides service to the county in which the application will be made. [1979 c 694 §3]

18.410 Who may satisfy judgment; proceedings where judgment docketed in another county; disposition of money. Any person, against whom exists a judgment for the payment of money or who is interested in any property upon which any such judgment is a lien, may pay the amount due on such judgment to the clerk of the court in which the judgment was rendered, and the clerk shall thereupon satisfy the judgment upon the records of the court. If such judgment has been entered in the records or docketed in the judgment docket in any other county than the county in which it was rendered, then a certified copy of the satisfaction may be entered in the register of the circuit court for such

other county and the clerk of that court shall thereupon satisfy the judgment upon the records of that court. Unless the clerk of the court in which the judgment was rendered sooner turns over the money paid to the clerk on the judgment to the person determined by such court to be entitled thereto, the clerk shall turn the money over to the appropriate fiscal officer, who shall give the clerk duplicate receipts therefor. One of the receipts shall be filed with the papers in the case in which such judgment was rendered, and the other shall be retained by the clerk. The fiscal officer shall at any time pay the money over to the person who shall be determined to be entitled thereto by the order of the court in which the judgment was rendered. [Amended by 1985 c 540 §26]

18.420 Proceedings after discharge in bankruptcy. (1) Any person discharged from debts pursuant to the federal bankruptcy laws may file in any court or tribunal in which a judgment has at any time been rendered or a transcript thereof filed against the person, either before or after such discharge, a motion in the suit, action or proceeding for the discharge of the judgment from the record. If it appears to the court that the person has been discharged from the payment of the judgment or the claim upon which the judgment was based, the court shall order that the judgment be discharged and satisfied of record, and thereupon the clerk of the court shall enter a satisfaction thereof; however, no such order shall be granted except upon such notice to the parties interested as the court or judge thereof may by order prescribe.

(2) For the purposes of this section, where notice was given in connection with bankruptcy proceedings to a creditor retaining a beneficial interest in an assigned judgment or claim, such notice shall provide the basis for the satisfaction of that portion of said judgment in which the creditor retains a beneficial interest. Where the bankrupt received notice prior to the adjudication of bankruptcy of the assignment of a judgment or claim, notice to the assignor retaining a beneficial interest shall not provide the basis for satisfaction for that portion of the judgment which represents the amount actually paid by the assignee of said judgment for said claim and actual court costs incurred by said assignee in prosecuting said claim. [Amended by 1961 c 538 §1]

CONTRIBUTION

18.430 Contribution among judgment debtors; subrogation of surety. When property liable to an execution against several persons is sold thereon, and more than a due

proportion of the judgment is levied upon the property of one of them, or one of them pays, without a sale, more than that person's proportion, that person may compel contribution from the others; and when a judgment is against several, and is upon an obligation or contract of one of them as security for another, and the surety pays the amount, or any part thereof, either by sale of property or before sale, the surety may compel repayment from the principal. In such cases, the person so paying or contributing shall be entitled to the benefit of the judgment to enforce contribution or repayment, if within 30 days after payment the person files with the clerk of the court where the judgment was rendered, notice of payment and claim to contribution or repayment; upon filing such notice, the clerk shall make an entry thereof in the margin of the docket where the judgment is entered.

18.440 Right of contribution among joint tortfeasors; limitations; subrogation of insurer; effect on indemnity right. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, where two or more persons become jointly or severally liable in tort for the same injury to person or property or for the same wrongful death, there is a right of contribution among them even though judgment has not been recovered against all or any of them. There is no right of contribution from a person who is not liable in tort to the claimant.

(2) The right of contribution exists only in favor of a tortfeasor who has paid more than a proportional share of the common liability, and the total recovery of the tortfeasor is limited to the amount paid by the tortfeasor in excess of the proportional share. No tortfeasor is compelled to make contribution beyond the proportional share of the tortfeasor of the entire liability.

(3) A tortfeasor who enters into a settlement with a claimant is not entitled to recover contribution from another tortfeasor whose liability for the injury or wrongful death is not extinguished by the settlement nor in respect to any amount paid in a settlement which is in excess of what is reasonable.

(4) A liability insurer, who by payment has discharged in full or in part the liability of a tortfeasor and has thereby discharged in full its obligation as insurer, is subrogated to the tortfeasor's right of contribution to the extent of the amount it has paid in excess of the tortfeasor's proportional share of the common liability. This subsection does not limit or impair any right of subrogation arising from any other relationship.

(5) This section does not impair any right of indemnity under existing law. Where one tortfeasor is entitled to indemnity from another, the right of the indemnity obligee is for indemnity and not contribution, and the indemnity obligor is not entitled to contribution from the obligee for any portion of the indemnity obligation.

(6) This section shall not apply to breaches of trust or of other fiduciary obligation. [1971 c.665 §1; 1975 c.269 §1]

18.445 Basis for proportional shares of tortfeasors. (1) The proportional shares of tortfeasors in the entire liability shall be based upon their relative degrees of fault or responsibility. In contribution actions arising out of liability under ORS 18.470, the proportional share of a tortfeasor in the entire liability shall be based upon the tortfeasor's percentage of the common negligence of all tortfeasors.

(2) If equity requires, the collective liability of some as a group shall constitute a single share. Principles of equity applicable to contribution generally shall apply. [1975 c.269 §2]

18.450 Enforcement of right of contribution; commencement of separate action; barring right of contribution; effect of satisfaction of judgment. (1) Whether or not judgment has been entered in an action against two or more tortfeasors for the same injury or wrongful death, contribution may be enforced by separate action.

(2) Where a judgment has been entered in an action against two or more tortfeasors for the same injury or wrongful death, contribution may be enforced in that action by judgment in favor of one against other judgment defendants by motion upon notice to all parties to the action.

(3) If there is a judgment for the injury or wrongful death against the tortfeasor seeking contribution, any separate action by the tortfeasor to enforce contribution must be commenced within two years after the judgment has become final by lapse of time for appeal or after appellate review.

(4) If there is no judgment for the injury or wrongful death against the tortfeasor seeking contribution, the right of contribution of that tortfeasor is barred unless the tortfeasor has either:

(a) Discharged by payment the common liability within the statute of limitations period applicable to claimant's right of action against the tortfeasor and has commenced action for contribution within two years after payment; or

(b) Agreed while action is pending against the tortfeasor to discharge the common liability and has within two years after the agreement paid the liability and commenced action for contribution.

(5) The running of the statute of limitations applicable to a claimant's right of recovery against a tortfeasor shall not operate to bar recovery of contribution against the tortfeasor.

(6) The recovery of a judgment for an injury or wrongful death against one tortfeasor does not of itself discharge the other tortfeasors from liability for the injury or wrongful death unless the judgment is satisfied. The satisfaction of the judgment does not impair any right of contribution.

(7) The judgment of the court in determining the liability of the several defendants to the claimant for an injury or wrongful death shall be binding as among such defendants in determining their right to contribution. [1975 c.269 §3]

18.455 Covenant not to sue; effect; notice. (1) When a covenant not to sue or not to enforce judgment is given in good faith to one of two or more persons liable in tort for the same injury or the same wrongful death or claimed to be liable in tort for the same injury or the same wrongful death:

(a) It does not discharge any of the other tortfeasors from liability for the injury or wrongful death unless its terms so provide; but it reduces the claim against the others to the extent of any amount stipulated by the covenant, or in the amount of the consideration paid for it, whichever is the greater; and

(b) It discharges the tortfeasor to whom it is given from all liability for contribution to any other tortfeasor.

(2) When a covenant described in subsection (1) of this section is given, the claimant shall give notice of all of the terms of the covenant to all persons against whom the claimant makes claims. [1975 c.269 §4]

18.460 Severability. If any provision of ORS 18.440 to 18.460 or the application thereof to any person is held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of ORS 18.440 to 18.460 which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application and to this end the provisions of ORS 18.440 to 18.460 are severable. [1975 c.269 §5]

COMPARATIVE NEGLIGENCE

18.470 Contributory negligence not bar to recovery; comparative negligence

standard. Contributory negligence shall not bar recovery in an action by any person or the legal representative of the person to recover damages for death or injury to person or property if the fault attributable to the person seeking recovery was not greater than the combined fault of the person or persons against whom recovery is sought, but any damages allowed shall be diminished in the proportion to the percentage of fault attributable to the person recovering. This section is not intended to create or abolish any defense. [1971 c 668 §1; 1975 c.599 §1]

18.475 Doctrines of last clear chance and implied assumption of risk abolished.

(1) The doctrine of last clear chance is abolished.

(2) The doctrine of implied assumption of the risk is abolished. [1975 c.599 §4]

18.480 Special questions to trier of fact; effect. (1) When requested by any party the trier of fact shall answer special questions indicating:

(a) The amount of damages to which a party seeking recovery would be entitled, assuming that party not to be at fault;

(b) The degree of each party's fault expressed as a percentage of the total fault attributable to all parties represented in the action.

(2) A jury shall be informed of the legal effect of its answer to the questions listed in subsection (1) of this section. [1975 c.599 §2]

18.485 Liability of joint tortfeasors; exception. Each joint tortfeasor defendant is jointly and severally liable for the entire amount of the judgment awarded a plaintiff, except that a defendant whose percentage of fault is less than that allocated to the plaintiff is liable to the plaintiff only for that percentage of the recoverable damages. [1975 c.599 §3]

18.490 Setoff of damages not allowed. Setoff of damages shall not be granted in actions subject to ORS 18.470 to 18.490. [1975 c 599 §5]

ADVANCE PAYMENTS

18.500 "Advance payment" defined. As used in ORS 12.155 and 18,500 to 18,530, "advance payment" means compensation for the injury or death of a person or the injury or destruction of property prior to the determination of legal liability therefor. [Formerly 41.950]

18.510 Effect of advance payment; payment as satisfaction of judgment. (1) If judgment is entered against a party on whose behalf an advance payment referred to in ORS

18.520 or 18.530 has been made and in favor of a party for whose benefit any such advance payment has been received, the amount of the judgment shall be reduced by the amount of any such payments in the manner provided in subsection (3) of this section. However, nothing in ORS 12.155, 18.520, 18.530 and this section authorizes the person making such payments to recover such advance payment if no damages are awarded or to recover any amount by which the advance payment exceeds the award of damages.

(2) If judgment is entered against a party who is insured under a policy of liability insurance against such judgment and in favor of a party who has received benefits that have been the basis for a reimbursement payment by such insurer under ORS 743.825, the amount of the judgment shall be reduced by reason of such benefits in the manner provided in subsection (3) of this section.

(3)(a) The amount of any advance payment referred to in subsection (1) of this section may be submitted by the party making the payment, in the manner provided in ORCP 68 C.(4) for the submission of disbursements.

(b) The amount of any benefits referred to in subsection (2) of this section, diminished in proportion to the amount of negligence attributable to the party in favor of whom the judgment was entered and diminished to an amount no greater than the reimbursement payment made by the insurer under ORS 743.825, may be submitted by the insurer which has made the reimbursement payment, in the manner provided in ORCP 68 C.(4) for the submission of disbursements.

(c) Unless timely objections are filed as provided in ORCP 68 C.(4), the court clerk shall apply the amounts claimed pursuant to this subsection in partial satisfaction of the judgment. Such partial satisfaction shall be allowed without regard to whether the party claiming the reduction is otherwise entitled to costs and disbursements in the action. [1971 c 331 §6, 1975 c 784 §14, 1981 c.892 §85c; 1981 c.898 §17]

18.520 Advance payment for death or personal injury not admission of liability; when advance payment made. (1) Advance payment made for damages arising from the death or injury of a person is not an admission of liability for the death or injury by the person making the payment unless the parties to the payment agree to the contrary in writing.

(2) For the purpose of subsection (1) of this section, advance payment is made when payment is made with or to:

(a) The injured person;

(b) A person acting on behalf of the injured person with the consent of the injured person; or

(c) Any other person entitled to recover damages on account of the injury or death of the injured or deceased person. [Formerly 41.960]

advance payment made for damages arising from injury or destruction of property is not an admission of liability for the injury or destruction by the person making the payment unless the parties to the payment agree to the contrary in writing. [Formerly 41.970]

18.530 Advance payment for property damage not admission of liability. Any
