

## **News Release**

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## OLCC Considers Additional Flexibility for Bars & Restaurants Rules would help in approval of outdoor space for serving customers

## **Commissioners Also Ratify Stipulated Alcohol Violation Settlements**

**PORTLAND, OR.** – At its **regular monthly meeting on July 16, 2020,** the Oregon Liquor Control Commission enacted a short-term solution while it considers a more permanent approach to help alcohol licensees utilize available outdoor areas to extend their bar and restaurant businesses while meeting social distancing requirements. The Commission also approved three alcohol violation stipulated settlement agreements.

The <u>temporary rules</u> approved by the Commission enable alcohol licensees to expand the area of their bars and restaurants (licensed premises) to outdoor areas without prior approval from the OLCC, if they meet specific requirements. The temporary rule is now in effect.

The Commission also initiated <u>permanent rulemaking</u> would provide alcohol licensees flexibility by giving them the permanent ability to use an area of their expanded outdoor licensed premises even if the licensee chooses not to do so year-round. Licensees would still need to have permission from the private or public property owner to use the outdoor portion of the expanded premises.

After OLCC staff complete drafting the language for the permanent rules, the Commission will hold an advisory committee, a public hearing and public comment period before the Commission decides whether or not to adopt the proposal. Staff will send notices on each of these meetings.

Additionally, Commissioners ratified the following violation fines and suspensions based on stipulated settlements (*detailed information on specific cases can be found <u>here</u> on the <u>OLCC website</u>):* 

**GUADALAJARA FAMILY MEXICAN RESTAURANT (F-COM)** in **Medford**, failed to maintain liquor liability insurance after closing its business but before surrendering its license. The Licensee accepts a Letter of Reprimand, which could be considered in any future application for any license or permit by the licensee.

Licensee is Ruiz Corporation, Inc.; Osvaldo Ruiz-Jaramillo, President/Treasurer/Secretary/Director/Stockholder.

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**SPORTSMAN TAVERN (F-COM)** in **Cave Junction**, violated the Executive Order (20-07 and 20-14) which prohibited on premises consumption; the licensee also allowed non-permitted individuals to serve themselves alcoholic beverages. The licensee will either pay a fine of \$7,095 2020 **OR** serve a 43-day license suspension.

Licensee is Robert McAnally, Managing Member; John Kimberly Sanders, Member.

**BRIAN WILBERT (Service Permit #11L78H)** consumed alcoholic beverages while on duty and after 2:30 am, and was observed pouring an alcoholic beverage directly into a patron's mouth from a punctured beer can.

The Permittee has agreed to either pay a fine of \$525 **OR** serve a 21-day permit suspension.

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A copy of the Stipulated Settlement Agreements for Alcohol Violation Cases can be found on the <u>OLCC website</u>, on the Laws & Rules page under the <u>Final Orders</u> section.