

# **News Release**

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## **Commissioners Appoint Craig Prins, Director**

### Addition of new Commissioner; Commission Hears from Industry

**PORTLAND, Ore.** – Commissioners of the Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission (OLCC) at their regularly scheduled meeting permanently appointed Craig Prins as the agency's Executive Director. Prins, who has been serving as interim director since this past February, served the state previously at the Oregon Department of Corrections.

"I want to say, 'thank you' to all the staff who have been using all their energy to do this great mission focusing on protecting the public health and safety of Oregon citizens and supporting these [alcohol and cannabis] industries," said Prins. "And thanks to the partners who've been patient with me as I've learned about the agency's portfolio during the last eight months."

Additionally, the Commission welcomed Alicia Hays as the newest Commissioner. Hays recently completed her fourth term as an elected member of the Eugene School Board, and previously worked as the Director of Lane County Health & Human Services. The Commission is anticipating the appointment of three additional Commissioners in the upcoming 2024 short legislative session as well.

OLCC Chair Dennis Doherty observed that cementing the leadership changes serves as a milestone for OLCC, indicating the agency's stabilization after a series of crises enveloped it earlier in the year.

"We've been through some tough times here," said Doherty. "We want to nurture collaboration and cooperation throughout the organization and externally and regard each other as partners. Everybody's voice matters."

Doherty indicated that ensuring the strength of the agency's culture is critical and that by establishing and maintaining a strong culture, the agency could overcome and accomplish anything. Prins echoed that point of view and acknowledged the gratitude he has in assuming stewardship of the OLCC.

"This is a Commission that works together collaboratively," said Prins. "It's easy to take that for granted unless you don't have it. I want to do everything I can to maintain a strong commission culture."

October 19, 2023 OLCC Commission Meeting

Commissioners heard an update from Oregon's wine industry on its improving postpandemic economic impact. The joint presentation from the Oregon Wine Association and Oregon Wine Council also highlighted ongoing issues like Oregon regulations that don't match requirements in other states and new challenges facing the industry, including localized and regional impacts from climate change like water shortages and pest infestations. The industry presentation also provided an insight into upcoming legislative priorities, as well as industry requests to the Commission regarding important priorities.

The Commission also ratified twelve stipulated settlement agreements for alcohol and marijuana licensees and license applicants. Detailed information on the specific cases below can be found <u>on the OLCC website</u>:

#### **Alcohol Stipulated Settlement Agreements**

**BEND PIZZA KITCHEN (L)** in Bend, <u>will pay a \$2,500 fine</u> **OR** <u>serve a 10-day suspension</u>, for one violation unless age verification equipment is installed by Nov. 1, 2023.

**CHOW (F-COM)** in Springfield, <u>will pay a \$1,485 fine **OR** serve a nine-day suspension</u>, for one violation.

**COV BRIDGE COUNTRY STORE & ANTIQUE (O)** in Sunny Valley <u>will pay a \$6,045 fine</u> **OR** <u>serve a 32-day suspension</u>, for two violations.

**SERVICE CREEK (L)** in Fossil, will pay a \$5,715 fine **OR** serve a 30-day suspension, for two violations.

**ESTACADA TACKLE SHOP (O)** in Estacada, <u>will pay a \$1,750 fine</u> **OR** <u>serve a seven-day</u> <u>suspension</u>, for one violation.

**SUMMIT XPRESS (O)** in Sunriver, <u>will pay a \$2,250 fine **OR** serve a nine-day suspension</u>, for one violation.

**SHARI'S OF BERRY HILL (F-COM)** in Oregon City, <u>will pay a \$2,250 fine **OR** serve a nine-day</u> <u>suspension</u>, for one violation.

**GOOL SPORTS CANTINA & OTB (F-COM)** in Salem <u>will accept license restrictions and either</u> pay a \$6,105 fine and serve a two-day suspension **OR** serve a 39-day suspension, for two violations.

#### **Stipulated Settlement Agreements for Liquor License Applicants**

**PAPICHULOS (F-COM)** in Bend will be approved to add a majority ownership interest for the existing Full On-Premises Sales license with the addition of license restrictions.

**PAPICHULOS ALBERTA (F-COM)** in Portland will be approved to add a majority ownership interest for the existing Full On-Premises Sales license with the addition of restrictions.

#### Marijuana Stipulated Settlement Agreements

**ASTRAL MARKETS** in Salem <u>will pay a \$3,960 fine</u> **OR** <u>serve a 24-day suspension</u>, for one violation.

**STONEY GIRL** will pay a \$8,000 fine **OR** serve a 32-day suspension, for four violations.