



# News Release

Oregon Liquor Control Commission  
9079 SE McLoughlin Blvd., Portland, OR 97222-7355  
1-800-452-6522

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For more information:

Mark Pettinger, OLCC Spokesperson  
[mark.pettinger@oregon.gov](mailto:mark.pettinger@oregon.gov) 971-235-7561 (mobile)

Bryant Haley, OLCC Spokesperson  
[bryant.haley@oregon.gov](mailto:bryant.haley@oregon.gov) 971-990-3254 (mobile)  
[www.oregon.gov/olcc](http://www.oregon.gov/olcc)

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## **OLCC Completes Social Distancing Observation Reports Oregon OSHA to Decide if Bars & Restaurants Warrant Violations OLCC Pursuing Three Cases for Violations of Agency Rules**

**PORTLAND, OR.** – The OLCC is forwarding reports to the Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OR OSHA) that **nine bars and restaurants** may have violated social distancing and face covering requirements. The OLCC is continuing investigations of three non-related cases where bars and restaurants may have violated OLCC rules.

During the Fourth of July holiday weekend, OLCC inspectors found most Oregon bars and restaurants they visited were complying with OLCC rules, following social distancing guidelines, and that employees and patrons were wearing face coverings. The compliance checks were part of a statewide effort to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

OLCC inspectors checked on 800 businesses across Oregon during the three-day period. **Inspectors issued 74 verbal instructions\*** to bars and restaurants to comply with social distancing and face covering requirements, or **about nine percent of the licensees visited.**

Preliminary reports indicated that there were social distancing and face covering problems throughout Lincoln County but upon further investigation those incidents were determined to be localized to businesses outside Newport city limits.

Based on a review of investigators' accounts, OLCC compliance staff is **forwarding nine incident reports to OR OSHA**; that's **one percent of the licensed establishments** OLCC inspectors checked. It will be up to OR OSHA to determine if there were any violations and what action to take.

The **OLCC is continuing its investigations of three licensees alleged to be out-of-compliance** with agency rules and will release that information if the licensees are ultimately charged. **This coming weekend (July 10<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>)** OLCC will again send out additional inspectors to make compliance checks.

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**OLCC 4<sup>th</sup> of July Holiday Weekend Compliance Inspections  
 (July 3 to July 5, 2020) Updated 7/9/2020**

- ✓ *Verbal instructions issued to 74 licensees or 9% of bars and restaurants visited by OLCC inspectors.*
- ✓ *Nine incident reports forwarded to Oregon OSHA for action, constituting about 1% of the licensees visited.*

<b>OLCC Regional Office (counties)</b>	<b>Visits</b>	<b>Verbal Instructions*</b>	<b>OLCC violations</b>	<b>Social distancing Face coverings</b>
<b>Portland Metro</b> (Clackamas, Multnomah, Washington, Hood River, Wasco)	431	28 businesses	No	General compliance
<b>Salem region</b> (Clatsop, Columbia, Marion, Polk, Tillamook, Yamhill)	208	9 businesses	No	General compliance
<b>Eugene region</b> (Benton, Douglas, Lane, Lincoln, Linn)	38	15 businesses	No	Scattered non-compliance  (3 cases referred to OR OSHA)
<b>Medford region</b> (Coos, Curry, Jackson, Josephine, Klamath, Lake)	48	10 businesses	Yes	General compliance
<b>Bend region</b> (includes Central & Eastern Oregon counties)	75	12 businesses	Yes	Scattered Non-compliance  (6 cases referred to OR OSHA)

\*Verbal Instruction gives OLCC licensees the opportunity to make immediate corrective actions in regards to compliance issues per an Inspector’s guidance rather than proceeding with a formal violation. Inspectors use this as a tool to provide education and gain licensee compliance.