



# Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

**Oregon Department of Aviation**

3040 25<sup>th</sup> Street SE  
Salem, OR 97302-1125

Office: 503-378-4880

Fax: 503-373-1688



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

November 13, 2025

**Oregon Department of Aviation Welcomes New Airport Programs Specialist**

**SALEM, OR** — The Oregon Department of Aviation (ODAV) is pleased to welcome Christian Berge as the agency's new Airport Programs Specialist. Berge brings a wealth of experience in aviation, law enforcement, and public service, strengthening ODAV's mission to ensure a safe and efficient aviation system for Oregon.

Berge began his aviation career as an Aviation Operations Specialist in the U.S. Army, stationed at Fort Rucker, Alabama, during Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm. Following his military service, he spent two decades in law enforcement as a police officer, building a reputation for professionalism and dedication to public safety.

With over ten years of experience in the aviation industry, Berge has worked as a flight attendant and operations agent with Southwest Airlines and as a ground service agent and team captain with Horizon Air. Most recently, he served as a Patient Advocate with the Portland VA Medical Center, where he worked to ensure veterans received compassionate and effective care.

Outside of work, Berge enjoys traveling and boating on the Willamette River with his wife, Deborah, and their four children.

"We're excited to welcome Christian to the ODAV team," said Kenji, Sugahara, Director of the Oregon Department of Aviation. "Christian's extensive experience in customer service, aviation, and public safety makes him a welcome addition to our agency. We are looking forward to his contributions to our aviation community."

For more information about the Oregon Department of Aviation, visit [www.oregon.gov/aviation](http://www.oregon.gov/aviation).

**Media Contact:**

Alexis Morris

*Communications & Administrative Specialist*

[Alexis.Morris@odav.oregon.gov](mailto:Alexis.Morris@odav.oregon.gov)

*Oregon Department of Aviation's mission is to provide infrastructure, financial resources,  
and expertise to ensure a safe and efficient air transport system*