



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Governor's Advisory Committee on DUII

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FROM: Chuck Hayes
Chair | GAC – DUII

DATE: May 29, 2025

SUBJECT: Recap for May 2nd Committee Meeting

This report is intended to provide a brief synopsis of the discussions and recommendations of the Governor's Advisory Committee on DUII. It is not a complete record of the listed meeting. To request full meeting minutes or additional information, please visit the committee webpage at <https://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/Safety/Pages/GAC-DUII.aspx>, or contact Jenifer Sether at jenifer.l.sether@odot.oregon.gov.

SIGNIFICANT REPORT ITEMS

- The May 2025 meeting of Governor's Advisory Committee (GAC) on DUII was held at the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) in Salem, OR. A significant part of the meeting involved discussion of two recent fatal crashes in Oregon that involved suspected impaired drivers. One of the crashes killed the women's softball coach and a player from the Umpqua Community College. The driver, who crossed the center line hitting the team van, was suspected of DUII and was driving on a suspended license resulting from a January DUII arrest. The second occurred in Marion County and involved a driver that had just that day completed a DUII diversion program. Both resulted in in-depth discussion on the problems of repeat DUII offenders and the issues of trying to ensure they do not reoffend and drive impaired after arrest and treatment.

COMMITTEE ACTION ITEMS / RECOMMENDATIONS

- The chair reported on recent data from the Oregon State Police Crime Laboratory that showed in 2024, Oregon DUII arrests and crashes where urine or blood toxicology was analyzed, resulted in a 32.3 percent positive toxicology for three or more drugs other than alcohol. Cannabis (THC), methamphetamine and fentanyl were then most prevalent detected drugs in the drivers. This led to discussion and several recommendations by committee members and liaisons on the need to consider future legislation to prohibit open containers of cannabis in vehicles and enacting stronger penalties for DUII when multiple impairing substances are involved.

UPCOMING COMMITTEE MEETING / NOTEWORTHY AGENDA ITEM(S)

- The next committee meeting will be June 6, 2025, at DPSST in Salem. The meeting will also be available using Microsoft Teams (link will be available online at <https://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/Safety/Pages/GAC-DUII.aspx>).