



News Release

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

For more information:
Bryant Haley Alcohol Program Spokesperson
bryant.haley@oregon.gov 971-990-3254 (mobile)

October 22, 2021

Pandemic continues to challenge Oregon Brewers

Tight labor market and global supply chain issues impact brewers

PORTLAND, OR. – Oregon’s beer industry continues to face challenges after over a year of the COVID pandemic impacting their operations, according to a presentation given to the Commissioners of the Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission (OLCC). In other Commission business, Commissioners appointed an agent to operate a liquor store in Eugene and also ratified one stipulated settlement agreement.

The Brewer’s Guild told the Commission that Oregon brewers, like other businesses within the hospitality industry, have experienced a downturn in sales while facing increased operational costs brought on by global supply chain issues. The Guild’s Executive Director Christina LaRue reported that total Oregon beer sales declined by about 324,000 barrels in 2020 compared to projected sales in 2021. Breweries have also been hampered by the tight labor market which has impacted the recruitment and retention of employees needed to keep their business flowing.

Commissioners also appointed Eric Laws to operate the Eugene West liquor store. Laws succeeds his father who had been successfully running the business since 1978. The Commissioners also ratified the following stipulated settlement agreement (detailed information on specific cases can be found [on the OLCC website](#)):

HOLA!6 (F-COM) in Bend allowed employees to consume alcoholic beverages and marijuana. Further, an employee was intoxicated while on duty. The Licensee has accepted responsibility and will either pay a \$2,970.00 civil penalty AND serve a 21-day license suspension OR serve a 39-day license suspension.

Licensees are: Rolo, LLC; Peter Lowes, Managing Member.

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A copy of the Stipulated Settlement Agreements can be found on the OLCC website, on the Laws & Rules page under the [Final Orders](#) section.