

News Release

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OLCC Commissioners Adopt Marijuana Rule Changes, Adjustment for Current Hemp Producers & Processors

Commission Also Approves Stipulated Settlements for Recreational Marijuana Violations, Revokes Marijuana Worker Permit

PORTLAND, Ore. – The Oregon Liquor Control Commission at its December 20, 2018 meeting adopted changes in rules regulating recreational marijuana with a focus on tightening licensing and compliance requirements, providing licensees flexibility to conduct business, and improving access to medical marijuana for patients.

Under the rules change Oregon Medical Marijuana Program cardholders or a designated caregiver will be allowed to purchase a larger amount of marijuana during a single transaction. In August 2018, after noticing suspicious purchase activity in the state's Cannabis Tracking System, the OLCC reduced the daily purchase limit to one (1) ounce for OMMP cardholders.

The rule changes approved by the Commission take effect on December 28, 2018.

Key elements of the rules changes include:

- Creating a denial basis for licensees who fail to complete the renewal process, and for license applicants found to have an unauthorized interest in a licensed business;
- Ending the issuance of new licenses to processors as alternating proprietors (shared kitchen) on the same licensed premises for applications received after January 1, 2019, but grandfathering all current processors in alternating proprietorships;
- Clarifying camera coverage for waste material and amending the penalty structure for violations based on the amount of missing camera footage and the number of offenses;
- Redefining the allowable shape of canopy areas a producer may have and including an allowance for producers to obtain a professional survey in lieu of the quadrilateral shape requirement;
- Allowing wholesale licensees to provide retailers with samples from product lines originating from multiple licensees:
- Increasing trade sample amounts for cannabinoid products, and allowing licensees to share trade samples with employees as long as the transaction is tracked in the Cannabis Tracking System;
- Increasing medical patient purchase to eight (8) ounces of usable marijuana per day and no more than thirty-two (32) ounces per month;
- Clarifying that a retailer can only sell a customer five (5) grams of an inhalant per day; and
- Allowing retailers to apply for the ability to deliver to patients and primary caregivers throughout the state, even in opt-out jurisdictions.

The new rules can found here on the OLCC Recreational Marijuana website.

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The Commission approved a temporary rule that enables industrial certificate holders (hemp producers and handlers [processors]) to continue to operate while the Commission completes its permanent hemp rule making.

The OLCC issued industrial hemp certificates expire one year after issuance; some of the issued certificates were set to expire beginning in January 2019. The Commission is set to complete permanent rule making for industrial hemp by the end of February 2019.

The temporary industrial hemp rule takes effect on January 7, 2019.

The Commission also approved the following fines and/or <u>marijuana</u> license suspensions based on stipulated settlements:

Positive Vibrations in Coos Bay, will pay a fine of \$4,290 or serve a 26-day recreational marijuana retailer license suspension for four violations.

Greenway Ventures* <u>will surrender its producer license</u> for <u>ten violations</u>.

In addition, the Commission accepted the findings of an Oregon administrative law judge upholding the revocation of a Marijuana Worker permit held by Donald Morse, and also upholding the issuance of a final order for a letter of reprimand for The Human Collective, a defunct licensed marijuana retailer, which Morse formerly co-operated.

A copy of the Stipulated Settlement Agreements for Marijuana Violation Cases can be found on the <u>OLCC</u> website, on the Laws & Rules page under the <u>Final Orders</u> section.

*The locations of OLCC marijuana producer, processor and wholesale licensees are exempt from public disclosure under Oregon law.

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