



# News Release

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## OLCC Appoints Leslie as Distribution Center Director

Will provide strategic and operational leadership for Distribution Center operations

**PORTLAND, OR.** – The Oregon Liquor Control Commission has appointed Nikki Leslie as the Distribution Center Director for the Distilled Spirits Program for the agency. The direct appointment was effective Monday, Feb. 24.

In this role, Leslie will be responsible for developing program policy, overseeing operations and assuring the efficiency and effectiveness of distribution center operations. The position is responsible for all functions related to receipt, storage, shipment and delivery. It also provides a crucial link between national alcoholic beverage agencies, other control state administrators, in-state liquor agents and the industry.

Two additional primary challenges facing the new Distribution Center Director and the OLCC Distilled Spirits Program are implementing a new IT warehouse management system and planning and executing a possible future relocation of operations over the next few years.

“In her previous roles, Nikki has proven herself to be a pragmatic leader who cares most about people and processes, and is adaptive and supportive while having vision, charisma, and integrity,” said Steve Marks, OLCC Executive Director. “Her business leadership will be necessary as we address the challenge of optimizing distribution and revenue generation for the state through new efficiencies in inventory management, throughput, and transportation.”

Retail expansion and Oregon population growth has fueled a system that will generate about \$580 million in liquor revenues for state, county and municipal governments over the next state budget cycle. That’s after OLCC pays for its important public safety work to control alcohol sales and service, and after it compensates private businesses that the state contracts with to sell liquor. The entire engine of the system is the Distilled Spirits Program and its warehouse operations which operate on under 4 percent of the funds generated.

Leslie has over 11 years of experience working for the OLCC, six years of which is within Distribution Center Purchasing, as well as an additional five years of experience serving as a District Manager in Retail Services. Before joining the OLCC, Leslie worked as a District Manager in the private sector.

The role was previously held by Chris Mayton prior to his appointment to Director of Distilled Spirits last year.

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