

Members:

Jennifer Nash, Chair
 Susan Mandiberg, Vice Chair
 Peter Buckley
 Robert Harris
 Alton Harvey, Jr.
 Tom Lininger
 Paul Lipscomb

**Nonvoting Members:**

Brook Reinhard
 Jasmine Wright
 Rep. Paul Evans
 Sen. Floyd Prozanski

Interim Executive Director:

Kenneth Sanchagrin

Oregon Public Defense Commission Workgroup

Meeting will occur virtually
 Thursday, May 8, 2025
 5:00 to 6:30pm
 Via Zoom*

Administrative Announcement

This is a public meeting, subject to the public meeting law and it will be recorded. Discussion will only be allowed amongst Commission members and staff for the duration of this meeting. Public comment will not be allowed during this meeting.

AGENDA

Approx. Time	Item	Lead(s)
5:00-5:05	Welcome	Chair Nash
5:05-6:30	Discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Governor's Letter of Expectations 2025-2027 Contracts 	Chair Nash
6:30 (Approximately)	***Adjourn***	

*To join the Zoom meeting, click this link: <https://zoom.us/j/93790877124>. This meeting is accessible to persons with disabilities or with additional language service needs. Our Zoom virtual meeting platform is also equipped with Closed Captioning capabilities in various languages, which agency staff can assist you with setting up ahead of meetings. Requests for interpreters for the hearing impaired, for other accommodations for persons with disabilities, or for additional interpreter services should be made to info@opdc.state.or.us. Please make requests as far in advance as possible, and at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting, to allow us to best meet your needs. Listed times are an estimate, and the Chair may take agenda items out of order and/or adjust times for agenda items as needed.

Next meeting: **May 29, 2025, 5-6:30pm via Zoom.**

Meeting dates, times, locations, and agenda items are subject to change by the Commission; future meeting dates are posted at: <https://www.oregon.gov/opdc/commission/Pages/meetings.aspx>



TINA KOTEK
GOVERNOR

April 17, 2025

Ken Sanchagrin, Interim Director
Oregon Public Defense Commission
198 Commercial Street SE, Suite 205
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Director Sanchagrin,

Thank you for agreeing to serve as the Interim Director of the Oregon Public Defense Commission (OPDC). You will face several immediate challenges, but I believe your collaborative leadership style, record of successfully working with a diverse group of interests, and commitment to transparency has prepared you for this responsibility. I have also been impressed with your work using data and the tools of the criminal justice system to examine sentencing, recidivism, and other important policy issues in Oregon.

Public defense is a core component of our community's safety. Oregon has a constitutional and moral duty to ensure that persons charged with a crime are represented by competent legal counsel. Victims of crime deserve to have timely resolution to criminal proceedings. Unfortunately, there are about 4,000 Oregonians currently waiting to have defense attorneys appointed to them, delaying justice for both the accused and victims.

If this crisis is to be addressed, the immediate answers lie in Oregon's most impacted counties - Multnomah, Jackson, Washington, Marion, Douglas, and Coos. The unrepresented crisis is years in the making and will take concerted action by everyone to solve. However, it is my expectation that OPDC will lead and make tangible progress quickly in ensuring that criminal defendants have adequate legal representation.

As you take leadership of OPDC, I am asking you to do the following:

- Conduct an organizational review to assess what is currently working well at the agency and what could be improved upon. The organizational review should include the views of OPDC employees, commissioners, defense providers, judges, prosecutors, and other groups.
- Meet regularly with the presiding judge, local defense providers, and the district attorney in each of the six crisis counties to identify local solutions, such as unimplemented recommendations from the Senate Bill 337 local crisis plan recommendations, process improvements, and identifying where additional attorneys are necessary.

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- By June 1, 2025, provide me with a timeline for when OPDC believes the unrepresented crisis will end in the six crisis counties and statewide.
- Develop a plan for how best to utilize OPDC's trial division in the crisis counties.
- Increase transparency and improve communication to the public on how OPDC spends state dollars.

The public, lawmakers, and the judicial community must be able to trust OPDC's ability to lead and collaborate to resolve the unrepresented crisis and the other challenges the agency faces. OPDC's ability to fulfill its constitutional and statutory duties, including resolving the unrepresented crisis, hinges on rebuilding faith in the agency. We are counting on your work to rebuild this trust.

You have my support, and the Governor's Office is here to be a partner in moving the agency forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tina Kotek", written in a cursive style.

Governor Tina Kotek

TK:smg