



News Release

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Commissioners Review New Approach for Oregonians to Get a Chance to Buy Rare, Hard-to-Find Distilled Spirits

Commission hears updates on warehouse; appoints Klamath Falls liquor store agent; approves marijuana tax compliance rules

PORTLAND, Ore. – At its regular scheduled meeting today, Commissioners of the Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission reviewed changes to the agency’s Chance to Purchase program, a randomized drawing providing Oregon residents the opportunity to purchase rare distilled spirits. The Commission also approved tax compliance rules for recreational marijuana retailers, received an update on plans for a new warehouse in Canby and appointed a new liquor store agent in Klamath Falls.

The [new Chance to Purchase policy](#) is the result of work done by the agency to provide better clarity on how highly sought after distilled spirits, like Pappy Van Winkle bourbon, are made available to retail customers, other than licensed bars and restaurants. The [Chance to Purchase program](#), in operation since 2018, was suspended earlier this year due to concerns arising from misappropriation of bottles of rare distilled spirits.

New guidelines specify how Chance to Purchase will operate and spell out OLCC’s internal responsibilities with a greater emphasis on transparency and accountability. The new policy includes provisions for a third-party to conduct the drawing, sets out clearer eligibility guidelines and includes a set schedule of quarterly drawings beginning in Q1 2024.

The Commission also made permanent rules it had temporarily approved earlier in 2023 to ensure that licensed recreational marijuana retailers have paid their business and personal taxes. Licensed retailers are required to provide proof from the Oregon Department of Revenue that they’re tax compliant, before OLCC issues a new, or renews an existing marijuana license.

Commissioners heard an update on the progress towards the agency’s new warehouse slated for Canby. The design of the warehouse has been modified because a new OLCC headquarters building won’t be constructed along with the warehouse. The new warehouse design and the modified contracts with architects and builders are in the approval and legal review stages by other State of Oregon agencies.

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In other action, the Commission approved a new liquor store agent for a store in Klamath Falls. Today the Board appointed Amrik Bagri as the permanent retail agent to operate the Klamath Falls East liquor store. Bagri currently operates the South Ashland and Jacksonville liquor stores.

The Commission also welcomed Tara Wasiak as the agency's new Deputy Director. Wasiak previously served as interim Director of the Portland Bureau of Transportation and has held several senior leadership roles at PBOT and the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority during her 15-year career in public service.

The Commission also ratified ten stipulated settlement agreements for alcohol and marijuana licensees and license applicants. Detailed information on the specific cases below can be found [on the OLCC website](#):

Alcohol Stipulated Settlement Agreements

SHILOH HAMLIN (PERMITEE) will pay a \$225 fine OR serve a nine-day suspension, for one violation.

CLACKAMAS RIVER GROWLERS (L) in Estacada, will pay a \$2,250 fine OR serve a nine-day suspension, for one violation.

JAX DELI (L) in Springfield, will pay a \$2,250 fine OR serve a nine-day suspension, for one violation.

GINO'S MARKET (O) in Klamath Falls, will pay a \$2,250 fine OR serve a nine-day suspension, for one violation.

SWEETHOME THRIFTWAY (O) in Sweet Home, will pay a \$2,250 fine OR serve a nine-day suspension, for one violation.

TONY'S (F-COM) in Portland, will pay a \$3,795 fine OR serve a 23-day suspension, for one violation.

GORGE WINE LIBRARY (L) in The Dalles, will pay a \$4,950 fine OR serve a 30-day suspension, for one violation.

HUB CITY BAR & GRILL (F-COM) in Redmond, will receive a Letter of Reprimand and either its principal will divest all interest in the business OR surrender their license for six violations.

Marijuana Stipulated Settlement Agreements

DARK HORSE DISTRIBUTION (Wholesaler) will pay a \$58,250 fine and serve a 4-day suspension OR pay a \$30,000 fine and serve a 117-day suspension, for five violations.

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SUNDAZE CANNABIS COMPANY (Producer) will pay a \$10,750 fine OR serve a 43-day suspension, for two violations.

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