

# Memorandum

PREPARED FOR: Senate Committee on Rules  
DATE: September 20, 2023  
BY: Leslie Porter, Analyst  
RE: Legislative Review of Executive Appointments



## OREGON GOVERNMENT ETHICS COMMISSION

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The Governor has appointed the following individual to the Oregon Government Ethics Commission subject to Senate confirmation.<sup>1</sup>

### New Appointee

Channa Newell of Portland

### Reappointee

Channa Newell of Portland

### Terms

October 5, 2023 – September 22, 2024

September 23, 2024 – September 22, 2027

### Appointment/Confirmation Authority

[ORS 244.250 \(2021\)](#)

### Statement of Economic Interest<sup>2</sup>

Required.

### Composition<sup>3</sup>

The commission has nine members, eight of whom must be from among persons recommended by legislative leadership: two recommendations each by Democratic and Republican party leadership in each chamber of the Legislative Assembly. No more than three members may be members of the same political party.<sup>4</sup>

- House Democrat recommendations: MCAULEY (D), PAYNE (D)
- House Republican recommendations: BURKE (L), MASON (R)
- Senate Democrat recommendations: HOLLISTER (D), **NEWELL (N/A)**
- Senate Republican recommendations: LINDSAY (R); THOMPSON (R)
- A ninth appointee: FISKUM (N/A).

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<sup>1</sup> [Or. Const. art. III sect. 4](#), [ORS 171.562 \(2021\)](#) and [ORS 171.565 \(2021\)](#).

<sup>2</sup> [ORS 244.050 \(2021\)](#).

<sup>3</sup> [ORS 182.100 \(2021\)](#) for affirmative action policy and [ORS 236.115 \(2021\)](#) for diversity criteria.

<sup>4</sup> [ORS 244.250 \(2021\)](#).

A person who holds any public office for which a statement of economic interest is required, except as a member of the commission, may not be appointed. Members serve four-year terms and may not serve more than two full terms and may serve out an unexpired term. The commission elects its chair and vice chair. A quorum consists of five members, but a final decision may not be made without an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to the commission.

## **Duties<sup>5</sup>**

The commission administers and enforces state government ethics laws, lobby regulation laws, and the executive session provisions of Oregon's public meetings laws. The commission must:

- administer statement of economic interest requirements for specified public officials, candidates, and participating political subdivisions;
- develop a filing, coding, and cross-indexing system;
- receive and review conflict of interest records submitted by a public body;
- receive and review rules or policies adopted by a state agency or statewide public association that interpret provisions of ethics laws;
- administer legal expense trust fund requirements for public officials;
- estimate operating expenses for each biennium and assess specified public bodies an appropriate portion of those expenses;
- receive, review, investigate, and report findings on filed ethics complaints;
- accept and file any information voluntarily supplied that exceeds the requirements of ethics laws;
- prepare and publish reports;
- make statements and information filed with the commission available for public inspection and copying during regular office hours;
- not later than February 1 of each odd-numbered year, report to the Legislative Assembly on any recommended changes to the statutes administered by the commission;
- adopt rules necessary to carry out statutory duties;
- administer an electronic filing system for filing required statements;
- make statements filed with the commission, advisory opinions issued by the commission or the executive director of the commission, findings of a violation of Oregon government ethics laws, and lobbyist registration statements searchable via the internet;
- appoint an executive director to serve at the pleasure of the commission;

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<sup>5</sup> [ORS 244.050 to 244.340 \(2021\)](#), [ORS 171.740 to 171.778 \(2021\)](#), and [ORS 192.685 \(2021\)](#).



- prepare, publish, and distribute a manual on government ethics that explains the requirements of Oregon government ethics laws and the commission's interpretation of those requirements;
- prepare and present a program of continuing education for public officials;
- annually report to the Legislative Equity Officer on training attended by registered lobbyists; and
- administer lobbyist registration requirements.

The commission may:<sup>6</sup>

- retain or appoint qualified legal counsel when the Attorney General concurrently represents more than one public official or agency in any matter before the commission and certain criteria are met;
- issue and publish written advisory opinions on the application of ethics laws to any proposed transaction or action or any actual or hypothetical circumstance; and
- impose civil penalties and issue written letters of reprimand, explanation, or education for specified violations.

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<sup>6</sup> [ORS 244.250 to 244.390 \(2021\)](#).



## Government Ethics Commission, Oregon

Agency: **None**

Authorization: **ORS 244.250, HB 2019**

Min Members: **9**    Max Members: **9**

Term Length: **4**    Term Limit: **1**

Senate Confirmation Required?: **Yes**

Policy Area: **Intergovernmental Relations**

Board Admin: **Ron Bersin**

Address:

**3218 Pringle Road SE, Suite 220**

**Salem, OR 97302**

**503-378-5105**

**ron.a.bersin@state.or.us**

## Current Appointments

<b>McAuley, Alicia</b> House Democrat Recommendation, Democrat Position Number: <b>1</b>	Term(s): <b>11/19/2021 - 11/18/2025</b>
<b>Mr Fiskum, David M</b> Governor's Appointee; Non-Affiliated Position Number: <b>2</b>	Term(s): <b>5/31/2021 - 5/2/2025</b> <b>5/3/2017 - 5/2/2021</b>
<b>Mr Mason, Daniel C</b> House Republican Recommendation; Republican Position Number: <b>3</b>	Term(s): <b>7/1/2021 - 6/30/2025</b> <b>7/1/2017 - 6/30/2021</b>
<b>Payne, Shenoa</b> House Democrat Recommendation; Democrat Position Number: <b>4</b>	Term(s): <b>9/28/2022 - 9/27/2026</b>
<b>Mr Burke, Richard P</b> House Republican Recommendation; Libertarian Position Number: <b>5</b>	Term(s): <b>9/28/2022 - 9/27/2026</b> <b>9/23/2016 - 9/22/2020</b>
<b>Ms Hollister, Amber A</b> Senate Democrats Recommendation, Democrat Position Number: <b>6</b>	Term(s): <b>7/1/2020 - 6/30/2024</b>
<b>Mr Thompson, Jonathan E</b> Senate Republican Recommendation; Republican Position Number: <b>7</b>	Term(s): <b>11/19/2021 - 11/18/2025</b>
<b>Mr Lindsay, Shawn</b> Senate Republican Recommendation; Republican Position Number: <b>8</b>	Term(s): <b>10/1/2020 - 9/30/2024</b>

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**Newell, Channa**

Term(s):

**9/23/2024 - 9/22/2028**

Senate Democrat Recommendation; Unaffiliated

**10/5/2023 - 9/22/2024**

Position Number: **9**

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## Vacant Positions