



OREGON LAW COMMISSION MINUTES

Meeting Date: November 21, 2025
Location: Zoom
Chair: Valerie Sasaki
Commissioners: Valarie Sasaki, Christa Obold Eshleman, Cody Hoesly, Eva Kripalani, Rep. Willy Chotzen, Professor Kristen Bell, Justice Rebecca Duncan, Sen. Floyd Prozanski, Rep. Kim Wallan, John Dilorenzo, Rep. Jason Kropf, Dean Jeff Dobbins, Dean Sandy Patrick
Unable to Attend: Ben Gutman, Chief Judge Erin Lagesen, Judge Mary Mertens James
Staff: Amy Zubko, Cara Goldfarb, Gabriel Hanson
Guests: Channa Newell, Les Ruark

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Minutes

Cody Hoesly moved to adopt the August 8, 2025 meeting minutes, Eva Kripalani seconded the motion, and the members voted to adopt the meeting minutes for the meeting.

3. Active Projects

Amy Zubko shared the state of the four ongoing projects for the commission:

- **Electronic Wills Work Group:** has been meeting monthly since August and is currently looking at how electronic wills have been treated in other states. The workgroup has hosted presenters from national organizations to understand the national landscape of E-Will adoption better. Also, the work group hosted Judge Keisel from Washington State to better understand how E wills have been used after their state's E wills legislation passed.
- **LLC Act Work Group:** which was introduced in the last legislative session and did not pass. A small group has met to discuss options for reintroduction in 2027 or 2027, and the fiscal impact statement that came up during the last legislative session.
- **Municipal and Justice Courts Work Group:** have had two meetings so far and have broken down the topics and small groups for progressing through the language of the proposal.

- **Partition of Heirs Property Work Group:** the work group has met twice so far and is doing its first evaluation of the Uniform Act. This is intended to be introduced in the 2027 legislative session.

4. Operations

Valarie Sasaki thanked those who had volunteered to participate in the Administrative Subcommittee and shared that the group would begin meeting in the new year.

5. Budget

Amy Zubko presented updated information regarding the commission's budget. First, for 2025, the University of Oregon provided year-end financial information for FY 2025 which was shared with the Commission. The Commission came in under the projected budget due to personnel changes and unspent money for a server upgrade. While the 2026 funding outlook was stable, since the end of the 2025 legislative session, the state budget landscape has changed and there may be changes to the 2025 - 2027 biennial budget due to uncertainty in the state budget. This would affect the Commission in FY 2027.

John DiLorenzo brought up the possibility of offering externships to students to improve the commission's research capacity. Jeff Dobbins shared his thoughts on whether that was possible, and the administrative subcommittee will revisit this in future meetings. Kristen Bell mentioned that the graduation requirement for students' research papers is another way to get students involved.

There have been some changes to the possibility of hiring a research fellow or research assistants. Currently, Gabriel Hanson and Cara Goldfarb are staying on as research assistants for the remainder of the academic year. Kristen Bell shared that while there were changes due to the University of Oregon/Graduate Student contract, law school faculty and staff were still able to hire students for research positions.

6. Workplan

Amy Zubko shared updates on the commission's workplan and flagged some changes. The first one was a potential criminal and juvenile project, and the proposal for collateral consequences, which did not pass due to a substantial fiscal impact. Since that bill didn't pass, a national database has been created that categorizes collateral consequences by state, which was the primary reason for the fiscal impact statement earlier. However, in talks about reconsidering the proposal, it was likely that the work

that's been done on expungements in Oregon decreases the need for this proposal to be revisited immediately.

7. Program Committee

Valarie Sasaki shared that the next Program Committee meeting is coming up, and as of this meeting, there aren't any proposals. Unlike in the previous handful of years, the Commission had scheduled a Program Committee meeting with a deadline for submissions.

There has been discussion of potential proposals regarding SB 15(2025)/simple estate affidavits, and the Oregon Government Ethics Commission.

8. Future Meetings

Amy Zubko has shared potential meeting dates for 2026 and into early 2027 for both the Full Commission and Program Committee. Amy announced she would send out calendar invites before the end of the year if she did not hear any feedback on the proposed dates.

- a. Program Committee
 - i. Friday, December 19, 2025 at noon (*already scheduled*)
 - ii. Friday, July 24, 2026 at noon (*proposed*)
- b. Full Commission Meetings
 - i. 2026 meeting (*proposed*)
 - 1. Friday, March 13, 2026 at 10 am
 - 2. Friday, June 5, 2026 at 10 am
 - 3. Friday, September 25, 2026 at 10 am
 - 4. Friday, December 4, 2026 at 10 am
 - ii. 2027 Meetings (*proposed*)
 - 1. Friday, January 8, 2027 at 10 am