



MEMORANDUM

Prepared for: Oregon State Senate
Regarding: Review of Executive Appointments
Date: September 21, 2022

LPRO: LEGISLATIVE POLICY AND RESEARCH OFFICE

WORKERS' COMPENSATION BOARD

The Governor has appointed the following individuals to the Workers' Compensation Board, subject to Senate confirmation:¹

New Appointment

Howard Nielsen of Salem
Jenny Ogawa of Wilsonville

Term

09-28-2022 – 09-27-2026
09-28-2022 – 09-27-2026

Statutory Authority

[ORS 656.712 \(2021\)](#).

Statement of Economic Interest²

Required.

Composition³

The board consists of five appointees with no more than three belonging to the same political party, that include:

- at least two with a background and understanding of the concerns of employers (**NIELSEN** (R) and **OGAWA** (I));
- at least two with a background and understanding of the concerns of employees (CEJA (N/A) and OUSEY (D)); and
- one representing the interests of the public and serving as the chair (WOLD (D)).

All board members must impartially apply the law in each case and may not represent any special interest. None may hold any other office or position of profit or pursue any other business or vocation or serve on or under any committee of any political party. Before undertaking their duties, each member affirms and executes a bond payable to the state conditioned on the faithful discharge of the duties of the office.

Appointees serve four-year terms and hold office until a successor is confirmed. They may be removed for inefficiency, neglect of duty, or malfeasance in office after receiving a copy of the charges and an opportunity for hearing. A majority constitutes a quorum.

¹ [Or. Const. art. III, §4](#); [ORS 171.562](#) and [171.565 \(2021\)](#).

² [ORS 244.050 \(2021\)](#).

³ [ORS 656.712 to 656.718 \(2021\)](#) ; see also [ORS 182.100 \(2021\)](#) for affirmative action policy and [ORS 236.115 \(2021\)](#) for diversity criteria.

Duties⁴

The board provides timely and impartial resolution of disputes arising under Oregon Workers' Compensation Law and the Oregon Safe Employment Act. The chair supervises and manages the board and the Hearings Division, in which administrative law judges (ALJs) conduct contested case hearings and provide alternative dispute resolution. The board's duties include:

- reviewing, and approving or denying claim disposition agreements;
- receiving and referring requests for hearings to ALJs;
- adjudicating appeals of ALJ orders; and
- consulting with the chair concerning administration of the Hearings Division.

⁴ [ORS 656.206 to 656.740 \(2021\)](https://www.oregon.gov/wcb/Pages/about.aspx); Workers' Compensation Board website, *About Us*, <<https://www.oregon.gov/wcb/Pages/about.aspx>> (last visited August 5, 2020).

Executive Appointments Board Roster

Workers' Compensation Board

Agency: None
Authorization: ORS 656.712
Members: Min: 5 Max: 5
Term Length: 4 years Limit: None
Senate confirmation required? Yes
Paid Position: Yes

Policy Area: Labor/Trades

Board Contact:

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Current Appointments:

Member Name and Address (Alphabetical)

Moises R Ceja Employee Representative; not a member of a party Term(s): 05-14-2021 - 05-13-2025	Position Number: 3
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Sally A Curey, JD Employer Rep; Democrat Term(s): 06-01-2018 - 05-31-2022 06-01-2014 - 05-31-2018	Position Number: 2
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Howard Nielsen Employer Rep; Republican Term(s): 09-28-2022 - 09-27-2026	Position Number: 2
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Jenny Ogawa Employer Rep; Independent Term(s): 09-28-2022 - 09-27-2026	Position Number: 4
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Roger W Ousey Employee Rep; Democrat Term(s): 05-03-2021 - 05-02-2025 05-03-2017 - 05-02-2021	Position Number: 5
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Connie Wold, Chair Public Member; Democrat Term(s): 09-25-2019 - 09-24-2023 09-25-2017 - 09-24-2019	Position Number: 1
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