



# Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

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**September 30, 2025**

**To: The Senate Interim Committee On Judiciary and the House Interim Committee On Judiciary**

**From: Marie Atwood, Director of Professional Standards, Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST)**

**Re: Oregon Law Enforcement Identification Standards and Practices**

## **Introduction**

The Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) is responsible for the training and certification of public safety and private security professionals across the state. DPSST also serves as an accountability agency. If a public safety or private security professional fails to comply with Oregon's minimum standards for certification, which include moral fitness, DPSST can seek revocation of an individual's certification. DPSST trains constituents thoroughly in accordance with Oregon statutes and administrative rules to ensure compliance with all legal standards, including police and private security identification requirements.

## **Summary of Legal Standards**

### **Police Officers:**

- ORS 181A.702: proscribes crowd management uniform identification standards
- ORS 181A.704: law enforcement officers must provide name and ID number upon reasonable request
- ORS 810.400: requires conspicuous display of official ID card to enforce traffic laws
- ORS 131.615: police must inform citizens they are a peace officer upon stopping them
- ORS 133.235: police must give notice of identity, authority, and purpose before entering premises to make an arrest

### **Private Security Providers:**

- OAR 259-060-0015 (2): requires private security providers to possess their DPSST issued certification, license, or temporary work permit while working and must be able to present this documentation upon reasonable request
- ORS 181A.893, in conjunction with OAR 259-060-0012: prohibits use of a name that implies affiliation with an existing law enforcement agency and prohibits possessing or

using in the scope of employment, equipment, vehicles, uniforms or titles that imply the private security provider or entity is affiliated with a public or private safety agency

### **Campus Security:**

- ORS 181A.972, Kaylee's Law: applies to special campus security officers and private security providers on campuses; requires background checks, psychological testing, and retention of video and audio evidence; prohibits campus security from using uniforms or vehicles that can't be differentiated from police uniforms or vehicles and requires the prominent designation of "campus security" or prominent use of a school logo or school colors

### **Summary of DPSST Training Components**

#### **Police Officers:**

DPSST's basic police officer training curriculum consists of many components, including legal training in a classroom setting, skills training in the form of drills and active scenarios, and use of force training in both classroom and practical skills formats. Recruits are trained in identification requirements across all of these components.

#### **Legal Training:**

Encounters, stops and arrests are covered through a four-part Procedural Law series. Students are trained specifically on ORS Chapter 131 identification requirements as well as Oregon's sanctuary state laws and law enforcement's duties toward foreign nationals under the Vienna Convention.

Within the Criminal Law series, recruits are educated regarding several crimes that require proof that a suspect was aware of an officer's identification, including Resisting Arrest, Interfering with a Peace Officer, and Assaulting a Public Safety Officer.

Within the Mock Trial class, students practice presenting testimony regarding traffic stops; a requirement for successful presentation includes evidence of identification in accordance with ORS 810.400.

#### **Practical Training:**

In DPSST's Use of Force program, identification requirements are discussed during nearly every class. In the classroom setting, students watch and debrief between 30 to 35 videos where these legal requirements are identified and reinforced.

DPSST's skills-based trainings are similarly thorough in emphasizing identification standards. Students perform 16 hours of fragment drills – short, scenario-based training exercises designed to help develop effective communication skills for positive community interactions. Every drill begins with a briefing; students are then expected to engage with a citizen as part of the drill. These exercises emphasize the importance of introductions, communication fundamentals, and establishing rapport with citizens. In 12 of the 16 fragment drills, students are required to begin the interaction by introducing themselves and the introduction is part of the specific learning objective.

After completing fragment drills, students advance to 44 hours of full scenarios. These scenarios range from simple encounters, where students are expected to introduce themselves, to high-risk situations, such as active shooter incidents, where introductions are not feasible. Through this training, students become well-accustomed to identifying themselves in a variety of situations and develop the ability to discern when identification could be a safety risk to police or the public.

Students complete 32 hours of vehicle stop training. The first session is classroom-based, focused on their legal authority to stop vehicles, how to interact and introduce themselves to vehicle occupants. The remaining seven sessions take place in patrol cars at the DPSST Scenario Village, where they learn to perform the full process of conducting safe vehicle stops and how to introduce themselves when tactically feasible.

#### **Private Security Providers:**

Each of the basic courses for a DPSST private security provider certification or license includes training content on the provider's responsibility to possess their DPSST certification, license, or temporary work permit while working and to present this documentation upon reasonable request.

#### **Campus Security:**

Special Campus Security Officers are employed by a public university and are exempt from DPSST private security certification requirements. Private security providers for other types of institutions of higher education are certified by DPSST and complete the DPSST basic private security provider courses noted in the section above.

#### **Summary of Complaint Processes**

As noted above, DPSST is both a certifying agency and a compliance agency. When a police officer or private security professional fails to adhere to Oregon's administrative standards for

certification, our agency can pursue revocation of their certification. We receive misconduct complaints from agencies and the general public.

#### **Police Officers:**

An officer's failure to comply with legal standards can result in a complaint. When DPSST receives a complaint regarding an officer's conduct, we refer the complaint to the employing agency for investigation. If the employer's investigation of the complaint results in sustained findings and a separation of employment, DPSST will review the conduct and may open a professional standards case. Those cases are presented to our policy committees and the Board on Public Safety Standards and Training for a final determination on findings and revocation of certification if there has been a moral fitness violation.

#### **Private Security Providers:**

When DPSST receives a complaint regarding a certified private security officer, our compliance specialists investigate. Upon finding sufficient evidence that a private security provider has violated administrative or legal standards, DPSST may pursue civil penalties, or suspension or revocation of that individual's certification.

#### **Campus Security:**

Special Campus Security Officers are employed by a public university and are exempt from DPSST private security certification requirements. Complaints against a special campus security officer are referred to the employing public university. Private security providers for other types of institutions of higher education are certified by DPSST. DPSST will review the complaint to determine if it falls under DPSST statutes and rules. If the complaint is related to standards established under Kaylee's Law, the complaint is referred to the employing educational institution.

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Questions or requests for additional information may be directed to Marie Atwood, DPSST Director of Professional Standards, at [Marie.ATWOOD@dpsst.oregon.gov](mailto:Marie.ATWOOD@dpsst.oregon.gov) or Jennifer Howald, DPSST Legislative Coordinator, at [Jennifer.HOWALD@dpsst.oregon.gov](mailto:Jennifer.HOWALD@dpsst.oregon.gov) .