

# Oregon lifts suspension of insurance carrier Moda

By **BECKY BOHRER**  
Associated Press

JUNEAU, Alaska — Insurance regulators in Oregon and Alaska announced Monday that a company that had been suspended from offering health insurance policies in the states over concerns with its financial condition will be allowed to resume that business.

The Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services and the Alaska Division of Insurance said they have reached an agreement with Moda Health Plan Inc. aimed at stabilizing its financial position.

The agencies said the agreement will allow Moda to resume selling and renewing policies to individual and group customers in Oregon, as well as Alaska.

Both states late last month

suspended Moda from accepting new or renewal policies, citing concerns with the company's financial situation.

In a release, Patrick Allen, director of the Oregon department, said initially the agency thought it might be prudent for Moda to leave the individual market. The steps outlined in the consent order will instead allow consumers to continue their health coverage with no changes, he said.

The agreement reached "is the best option for consumers because it will not disrupt their current policies," he said. The department said it retains the ability to respond if Moda doesn't comply with all the requirements in the order.

"We worked very hard to keep them" in the market, said Alaska Division of Insurance Director Lori Wing-Heier.

Moda is one of two companies that have been offering individual health insurance policies for Alaskans on the federally facilitated online marketplace. Wing-Heier said she has asked the federal government to put Moda back on the exchange and has also requested a two-week special enrollment period. Wing-Heier said people may have selected Moda but had not finalized their enrollment. The initial action against Moda took place near the end of the latest open enrollment period on the marketplace.

Alaska officials in a release said both states came to an agreement with Moda over the weekend that outlines a plan for the company to stabilize its financial position and continue to offer coverage.

The agreement calls for Moda to raise at least \$179 million, which is expected to allow the company to

continue providing services through 2016. Of that, \$15 million would be put aside for the protection of Alaska policyholders, Wing-Heier said. The \$15 million bank deposit for Alaska policyholders also could come from existing Moda funds, said Lisa Morawski, a spokeswoman for the Oregon department.

Among other things, Moda also must obtain approval from Oregon regulators before awarding executive salary increases or bonuses.

Wing-Heier said insurers not only in Alaska but across the country have had a tough time. Moda has made a commitment to try to stay in the market, she said.

"They could've taken a much easier route and said, 'We're out of health insurance,' or 'We're out of (here), period,' and they did not take that," she said.

Since Jan. 27, Moda has worked

through the process of assuring the Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services of its ability to continue to serve its individual customers in Oregon and Alaska, said Robert Gootee, CEO of Moda Inc., the parent company of Moda Health Plan. "They have done an excellent job of quickly analyzing a difficult and rapidly changing set of circumstances," he said in a statement. He said he's pleased an agreement has been reached on a path forward.

About 244,000 Oregon residents were enrolled in Moda plans in the individual, small group and large group markets as of Sept. 30, according to the Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services.

About 10,000 Alaskans are enrolled on the individual market and about 7,500 on the small group.

## HARNEY COUNTY STANDOFF: DAY 37 Remaining occupiers release defiant videos mocking FBI

By **TERRENCE PETTY**  
Associated Press

PORTLAND — The last four occupiers of an Oregon wildlife refuge have posted a series of defiant videos in which one of them calls FBI agents losers, shows a defensive perimeter they have built and takes a joyride in a government vehicle.

The videos were posted Sunday on a YouTube channel called Defend Your Base, which the armed group has been using to give live updates. The holdouts are among 16 people charged with conspiracy to interfere with federal workers in the armed standoff over federal land policy that has surpassed five weeks.

In one of the new videos, occupier David Fry says the FBI told him he faces additional charges because of defensive barricades the four have built.

"We just got done talking with the FBI," said the 27-year-old Blanchester, Ohio, resident. "They consider fortifying a crime."

Fry said he, Jeff Banta of Nevada, and husband and wife Sean and Sandy Anderson of Idaho have "every right" to defend themselves from the "oncoming onslaught of people with fully automatic rifles (and) armored vehicles."

"I'm tired of you guys telling us what we can and can't do," he says.

Then Fry shows government vehicles they have been using without permission. He walks up to a white truck and

says, "I think I'm going to take it on a little joyride."

"Now you've got another charge on me FBI. I'm driving your vehicle."

FBI spokeswoman Beth Anne Steele said the agency had no comment on the videos.

The four have refused to leave the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in eastern Oregon since the compound nearly emptied out after the Jan. 26 arrests of group leader Ammon Bundy and other main figures. The group seized the property on Jan. 2, demanding federal lands be turned over to locals.

The traffic stop on a remote road outside the refuge also led police to shoot and kill Robert "LaVoy" Finicum. The FBI says the Arizona rancher was reaching for a pistol in his pocket, but Finicum's family and Bundy's followers dispute that and say his death was not justified.

Authorities surrounded the refuge after the arrests. The FBI has been negotiating, but the holdouts have said they won't go home without assurances they won't be arrested.

In another video posted Sunday, Sean and Sandy Anderson are sitting together and the husband says they feel like hostages because they can't leave without being arrested.

"What are they to do with us?" Sean Anderson says. "They either let us go, drop all charges because we're good people, or they come in and kill us. How's that going to set with America?"

## John Day vigil attendees mourn death of LaVoy Finicum

By **SEAN HART**  
Blue Mountain Eagle

Candlelight cast a soft glow on the protest signs and American flags at the vigil for LaVoy Finicum Saturday in John Day.

The 54-year-old rancher from Arizona, who participated in the occupation of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge near Burns, was shot by police Jan. 26 en route to a planned community meeting in John Day. After leading police on a short, high-speed chase, Finicum exited his vehicle after driving into a snowbank. Authorities say he reached at least twice toward a jacket pocket containing a loaded handgun before police shot and killed him.

At Saturday's vigil, one man carried a sign stating Finicum had been murdered by police. Another sign said he died standing up for constitutional rights. Several people waved American flags, and another — upside down and at half-staff — was placed on the hood of a pickup where people signed guest books and a tarp to be sent to Finicum's family.

Kenny Delano, Mt. Vernon, was one of several who spoke to the crowd.

"We're all free men, but they're taking that away," he said. "It's time for us to make



The Eagle/Sean Hart  
**Kenny Delano, left, and other attendees at a vigil Saturday in John Day mourn the loss of LaVoy Finicum, who was shot by police after a short high-speed chase on Highway 395 north of Burns Jan. 26.**

that stand. Everyone should stand for their freedom and their neighbor's rights, and that's what LaVoy was doing."

Delano urged people to contact their governmental representatives — from city council members to national legislators — to make their voices heard.

Several of the attendees said

they were traveling to Burns Sunday and invited others to join to help rebuild a roadside memorial erected for Finicum that had been destroyed — before it was announced the memorial had already been rebuilt by others.

Attendees were also invited to another meeting Feb. 12 in Burns.

### Corrections

The East Oregonian works hard to be accurate and sincerely regrets any errors. If you notice a mistake in the paper, please call 541-966-0818.

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## AccuWeather.com Forecast

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Fog, then some sun	Mild with clouds and sun	Mostly cloudy and mild	Cloudy	A passing morning shower

### PENDLETON TEMPERATURE FORECAST

51°	31°	54°	36°	55°	37°	55°	40°	56°	39°
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### HERMISTON TEMPERATURE FORECAST

51°	32°	54°	36°	54°	37°	55°	40°	56°	38°
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### ALMANAC

**PENDLETON**  
through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	49°	29°
Normals	45°	29°
Records	75° (1996)	-21° (1929)

**PRECIPITATION**  
24 hours ending 3 p.m. 0.00"  
Month to date 0.22"  
Normal month to date 0.36"  
Year to date 1.73"  
Last year to date 1.18"  
Normal year to date 1.74"

**HERMISTON**  
through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	51°	27°
Normals	46°	29°
Records	66° (1945)	-26° (1929)

**PRECIPITATION**  
24 hours ending 3 p.m. 0.00"  
Month to date 0.05"  
Normal month to date 0.27"  
Year to date 1.15"  
Last year to date 0.90"  
Normal year to date 1.55"

### SUN AND MOON

	First	Full	Last	New
	Feb 14	Feb 22	Mar 1	Mar 8

### REGIONAL FORECAST

Coastal Oregon: Partial sunshine today; pleasant in the south. Partly cloudy tonight.

Eastern and Central Oregon: Sunshine today; however, areas of low clouds and fog across the north and in the upper Treasure Valley.

Western Washington: Sun and some clouds today. Partly cloudy tonight. A little rain at the coast tomorrow.

Eastern Washington: Areas of low clouds and fog, then some sun today. Partly cloudy tonight.

Cascades: Sunny to partly cloudy and mild today. Partly cloudy tonight.

Northern California: Mostly sunny today. Partly cloudy tonight. Partly sunny tomorrow.

### REGIONAL CITIES

	Today			Wed.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Astoria	63	48	pc	58	47	r
Baker City	42	21	s	44	26	pc
Bend	59	34	s	60	36	pc
Brookings	62	47	s	61	48	c
Burns	43	17	s	45	22	pc
Enterprise	48	24	s	48	28	pc
Eugene	60	44	s	63	45	c
Heppner	52	30	pc	55	37	pc
Hermiston	51	32	pc	54	36	pc
John Day	59	37	s	60	40	pc
Klamath Falls	56	30	s	57	31	pc
La Grande	50	33	s	51	34	pc
Meacham	51	33	s	51	34	pc
Medford	65	40	s	64	41	c
Newport	63	47	pc	59	49	c
North Bend	64	48	pc	62	49	c
Ontario	43	26	pc	43	27	pc
Pasco	51	30	pc	54	35	pc
Pendleton	51	31	pc	54	36	pc
Portland	62	42	pc	62	46	c
Redmond	60	31	s	62	34	pc
Salem	62	43	s	64	47	c
Spokane	45	31	pc	46	33	pc
Ukiah	54	27	s	54	33	pc
Vancouver	60	42	pc	59	47	c
Walla Walla	47	32	pc	53	37	pc
Yakima	53	33	pc	53	37	pc

### WORLD CITIES

	Today			Wed.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Beijing	50	21	s	52	33	s
Hong Kong	67	60	s	67	64	c
Jerusalem	54	36	s	51	38	sh
London	45	36	r	47	33	pc
Mexico City	65	38	pc	63	36	pc
Moscow	32	29	c	35	24	c
Paris	52	37	r	48	36	c
Rome	60	52	pc	58	38	s
Seoul	42	20	s	47	27	s
Sydney	78	66	s	81	69	s
Tokyo	55	38	s	49	38	s

### WINDS

(in mph)	Today	Wednesday
Boardman	NE 3-6	VAR 3-6
Pendleton	N 3-6	WNW 3-6

### UV INDEX TODAY

0	1	2	1	0	0
8 a.m.	10 a.m.	Noon	2 p.m.	4 p.m.	6 p.m.

0-2, Low; 3-5, Moderate; 6-7, High; 8-10, Very High; 11+, Extreme

The higher the AccuWeather.com UV Index™ number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

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### NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY

Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.

### National Summary:

Snow will wind down in northern New England but ramp up in parts of the central Appalachians and the mid-Atlantic today. Much colder air will pour across the Midwest. Much of the West will be sunny and warm.

### Yesterday's National Extremes:

(for the 48 contiguous states)  
High 88° in Oceanside, Calif. Low -15° in Gunnison, Colo.

### NATIONAL CITIES

	Today			Wed.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Albuquerque	60	31	s	63	32	s
Atlanta	39	24	sf	40	25	pc
Atlanta City	41	32	sn	38	25	pc
Baltimore	38	28	sn	37	20	sf
Billings	61	40	s	61	38	pc
Birmingham	38	23	pc	41	25	s
Boise	49	29	pc	48	31	pc
Boston	33	23	sf	37	24	sf
Charleston, SC	49	28	pc	46	26	s
Chicago, IL	32	20	sn	25	12	sf
Chicago	24	8	sn	17	8	pc
Cleveland	35	21	sf	27	13	sf
Dallas	62	35	sf	71	50	s
Denver	52	34	s	60	32	s
Detroit	37	20	sf	27	11	sf
El Paso	66	34	s	69	38	s
Fairbanks	4	-12	s	9	-2	pc
Fargo	12	-4	s	15	0	sn
Honolulu	78	65	s	79	67	s
Houston	64	38	s	71	50	s
Indianapolis	29	12	sf	19	9	pc
Jacksonville	54	30	pc	53	28	s
Kansas City	32	18	pc	37	21	s
Las Vegas	70	45	s	70	45	s
Little Rock	49	27	s	52	34	s
Los Angeles	91	55	s	87	55	s
Louisville	32	18	sf	26	15	c
Memphis	41	24	s	43	31	s
Miami	68	52	pc	65	46	pc
Millwaukee	24	9	sn	16	9	pc
Minneapolis	15	-2	s			