



LEAGUE OF  
WOMEN VOTERS®

# Voters' Guide

## November 4, 2014 State & County General Election

The League of Women Voters is committed to providing fact-based information and open discussion forums to help voters make their own decisions. As one of the oldest and most respected non-partisan organizations in the nation, our goals have always been to widen democratic participation and encourage fully researched, fact-based decision making in public policy.



**General Election — Tuesday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, 7AM to 7PM**

*The general election is open to all registered voters in Oklahoma. Voters may select any candidate who appears on the ballot. Three State propositions will also be on the ballot.*

## About the League and this Guide

The League has a long tradition of publishing the verbatim responses of candidates to questions important to voters. The League offers this free Voters' Guide to help citizens make informed decisions at the polls. The League of Women Voters never supports or opposes any candidate or political party.

All candidates running for offices that represent the Tulsa area were sent a questionnaire and given the opportunity to respond. The League neither edits material nor changes spelling, punctuation, or grammar of candidate submissions. If word limits are exceeded, the extra words are deleted and this is indicated by ellipses (...). Candidates are listed in alphabetical order. Incumbents are noted by the (i) sign.

Three State propositions will be on the general election ballot on November 4th. Each proposal is printed with the exact wording that will appear on the ballot followed by arguments of proponents and opponents. Voters will be asked to vote for or against each proposition on their ballot.

On occasion, the League of Women Voters decides to oppose or favor questions that appear on the ballot when warranted by League study and adopted positions. In such cases, the League's stance will be detailed in a separate insert to this Voters' Guide. The League decided to neither support nor oppose any of the three state questions that will appear on the November 4th ballot.

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## Voter Identification Requirements

All Oklahoma voters are required to produce proof of identity before casting a ballot whether voting at a regular polling place or voting early at the County Election Board.

Acceptable identification includes documents issued by the federal, state (of Oklahoma) or a tribal government that includes the voter's name, photograph, and an expiration date that is after the date of the election in which the voter is attempting to vote. Voters also may use a voter identification card or a temporary voter identification document issued by the County Election Board.

### Don't have ID? Ask for the provisional ballot!

It will take time to do the paperwork, but the Tulsa County Election Board says your vote will be counted if the name on the affidavit that accompanies the provisional ballot matches the name on the voter rolls. Be sure the name you put on the affidavit matches the name you used to register to vote.

### Vote!

Voting will take place at your polling place between 7 am – 7 pm on November 4th. You can vote in person at your polling place for the precinct in which you live. The name of your polling place is on your voter identification card.

Early voting will take place at the Tulsa County Election Board and Hardesty Library on October 30th and 31st between 8:00 am - 6:00 pm, and on November 1st between 9:00 am – 2:00 pm.

The last day to apply for a mailed absentee ballot is 5 pm on Wednesday, October 29th. Absentee application forms can be obtained from the Tulsa County Election Board or downloaded from this web link: [tulsacounty.org/documents/electionboardabsenteeballot.pdf](http://tulsacounty.org/documents/electionboardabsenteeballot.pdf)

For more information about the absentee voting process contact the Tulsa County Election Board at 918-596-5780 or check out the following webpage: [ok.gov/elections/Absentee\\_Voting/](http://ok.gov/elections/Absentee_Voting/)

### Time off to vote

Employees who begin their work less than three hours after the polls open and finish less than three hours before the polls close are entitled to two hours leave to vote. You must give notice the day before the election and must provide proof of voting to not have your pay reduced. The employer can set the time the employee can leave to vote.

# Governor of Oklahoma

## About the Governor

The Governor is the head of state for Oklahoma. Under the Oklahoma Constitution, the governor is also the head of government, serving as the chief executive of Oklahoma. The governor is the ex officio Commander-in-Chief of the Oklahoma National Guard when not called into federal use. Despite being an executive branch official, the governor also holds legislative and judicial powers. The governor's responsibilities include making yearly "State of the State" addresses to the Oklahoma Legislature, submitting the annual state budget, ensuring that state laws are enforced, and that peace is preserved.



### Joe Dorman (D)

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**Occupation:** State Representative -  
House District 65

**Education:** Oklahoma State University - BA  
in Political Science  
University of Central Oklahoma - Masters  
Course Work

**Professional Experience:** -OK House of  
Representatives Staff  
Running clerk  
Redistricting asst  
Research asst  
Asst to ED

Special Projects Coordinator 2000-2002  
Research Director - DLCC 1999-2000

#### Community Organizations:

Rush Springs' Lions Club  
Bricktown Rotary  
Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks  
Apache Area Community Foundation  
National Rifle Association  
OSU Alumni Association  
Oklahoma 4-H Foundation Board of Directors  
OK YMCA Youth and Government Board of  
Directors  
OSU Wesley Foundation Board  
Oklahoma Intercollegiate Legislature (OIL)  
Foundation Board  
Jasmin Moran Children's Museum Board of  
Directors

### Questions:

**Q: At a time when public schools are struggling to provide the basic educational needs of students within the current funding framework, what are your thoughts about the increasing costs, in both money and classroom time, of student testing?**

A. My Classrooms First plan will redirect 100% of Oklahoma's franchise tax to fund in-classroom resources.

Funding will be shielded from arbitrary cuts by preventing per pupil expenditures from cuts greater than a state budget shortfall. Schools can use these funds to provide teaching materials, textbooks, supplies, and technology and will be distributed on a per pupil basis within the state funding formula.

I will work with the legislature to eliminate end of instruction exams and replace them with the ACT for all Oklahoma high school sophomores. An alternative testing method will be developed for students with severe learning disorders, making this a tailored approach. Finally, the 3rd grade reading test will be replaced with assessments at the beginning and end of the school year to measure progress and determine if assistance is needed for each student. It's important that we implement developmentally appropriate testing for all Oklahoma students.

**Q: What are the specific core services that state government should provide and what funding sources would you use to provide these services?**

A. Education, Infrastructure, and public safety are vital to Oklahoma's progress. We must use existing revenue to pay for these services. I will analyze current tax credits to ensure the state is receiving the

most benefit out of the current structure and not wasting taxpayer dollars on credits that do not provide a return. We must fully fund existing obligations created by the legislature. State services must be examined to ensure efficiency and avoid duplication.

**Q: How would you improve access to healthcare for all Oklahomans?**

A. Medicaid Expansion will be my first Executive Order enacted upon my election as Governor of Oklahoma. Currently tax dollars that Oklahomans have already paid into the system are going to other states. I will ensure that those tax dollars stay in Oklahoma so we can continue to provide healthcare services across the state. Without the expansion of Medicaid, many hospitals will close, jobs will be lost, and the potential for an increase in the mortality rate will occur. I will continue to push for a broad healthcare outreach program and encourage hospitals to continue to invest in telemedicine. This will enable anyone across the state to have an instant online connection with the best doctors within Oklahoma's healthcare system. The health of Oklahomans ranks among the worst in the nation and we must work to find solutions to increase access to quality healthcare.



### (i) Mary Fallin (R)

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**Occupation:** Governor

**Education:** OSU class of '77

#### Professional Experience:

Regional Manager for national hotel chain;  
State Representative (1991-1995); Lieutenant  
Governor (1995-2006); U.S. Congresswoman  
(2006-2011); Governor (2011-present)

**Community Organizations:** National Rifle  
Association, member

Feeding Oklahoma Food Drive, member

### Questions:

**Q: At a time when public schools are struggling to provide the basic educational needs of students within the current funding framework, what are your thoughts about the increasing costs, in both money and classroom time, of student testing?**

A. There is no question that Oklahoma schools need more resources. To get those resources into the classroom and to fund education expenses (including testing) we need to continue to grow the economy. We have had significant success at creating new jobs and growing Oklahoma's economy, which is why we were able to allocate \$150 million in new money to K-12 education in the last two years alone.

Where testing is concerned, we need to have cost-efficient and time-efficient tests that are accurate measures of student knowledge and achievement. Testing is a way to ensure our schools are delivering results and that student achievement is improving. It also prepares our children for success in college and the workforce by ensuring they have the skills they need when they graduate from high school.

**Q: What are the specific core services that state government should provide and what funding sources would you use to provide these services?**

A. I believe that education, transportation infrastructure, public safety and health are the four priority areas of government that must always be supported. To do that, and to fund those areas of government, we need economic growth.

I have been proud to be governor during a time when Oklahoma saw the creation of over 100,000 new jobs, the reduction of our unemployment rate from 7 percent to just 4.6 percent, increases in family income, and dramatic growth in our revenue base. All of that has enabled us to focus on improving education, building safe roads and bridges, increasing safety and creating new, effective health and mental health programs.

In the next four years, I am going to continue to push the pro-growth policies that have led to strong economic expansion and an ability to adequately fund our core government services. I will also continue to work to eliminate government waste, so that the money we do spend is used appropriately.

**Q: How would you improve access to healthcare for all Oklahomans?**

A. We need to have two goals when it comes to health care: increasing the availability of health care services, and decreasing the cost. During my first term in office, I signed a bill directing millions of dollars to support physicians practicing in rural and underserved areas. That is helping to increase access to care in areas with very few primary physicians, and I will continue to support that program.

I have also worked very hard to renew and preserve Insure Oklahoma, a program that provides low-cost health insurance to over 20,000 low income, working Oklahomans. When the Obama administration tried to eliminate that program, I successfully pushed back.

Finally, we need to work to promote healthy citizens. We will never significantly bend the cost curve for health care until we reduce the number of Oklahomans who smoke or make unhealthy life choices. That's why I've worked to successfully promote tobacco cessation and wellness programs like Certified Healthy Schools & Communities.



**Richard Prawdzienski (I)**

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**Website:** www.Prawdzienski4Gov.com

**Facebook:** Richard Prawdzienski for Governor of Oklahoma

**Education:** MBA, Oklahoma City University

**Professional Experience:** Weapons System Acquisition Logistics. Plan support of system from cradle to grave weapon system, determine life cycle cost for the project.

**Community Organizations:** Team player in Senior Bowling League. Eat,

drink and play with other dues paying semi-active members of various groups.

**Questions:**

**Q: At a time when public schools are struggling to provide the basic educational needs of students within the current funding framework, what are your thoughts about the increasing costs, in both money and classroom time, of student testing?**

A. Year after year the teacher's associations and unions say schools need more money. Sales tax, individual and corporate tax, gross production tax, vehicle tax rate, real estate tax = equals = free public school. We can never satisfy the beast, we pay for life. Today, teacher associations and union say the 678,000 public school children need to be our priority. Meanwhile, education system is enslaving us. We need to break the chains. We can have a better education system, a healthier society and less taxes, but only if taxpayers are willing have real change. Let us pray.

If majority of citizen refuse to think and act outside the box we will continue to get a broken system and another cry for more money.

**Q: What are the specific core services that state government should provide and what funding sources would you use to provide these services?**

Core function is to protect unalienable individual rights and property. General funds.

**Q: How would you improve access to healthcare for all Oklahomans?**

A. Many illness are related to stress. The State must reduce stress by reducing regulations, red tape fees and taxes. Stop micro managing our businesses and personal lives and then we will be happier and healthier. We all heard an apple a day keeps the doctor away. I will crowd out reverse mortgage and sex aid pill ads with apple a day ads. Good nutrient, physical activity and moderation are keys to good health. We need to end state sales tax on fruits, vegetables and unprocessed foods.

**Kimberly Willis (I)**

No Response from candidate.

## Lieutenant Governor

### About the Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor is the second-highest executive official of the state government of Oklahoma. As first in the gubernatorial line of succession, the lieutenant governor becomes the new governor of Oklahoma upon the death, resignation, or removal of the governor. The lieutenant governor also serves as the president of the Oklahoma Senate, and may cast a vote to break ties in that chamber.



**Cathy Cummings (D)**

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**Occupation:** Restaurant owner, Daytripok.com, KTOK Radio host

**Education:** St.Teresa's Academy

**Professional Experience:** Restaurant owner for the past 15 years in OKC. OK, I own a travel and tourism website called daytripok.com Talk-show radio host KTOK

**Community Organizations:** Peace Love and Goodwill, The Homeless Alliance OKC, Sponsor of several 5k and 10k runs throughout OKC, Moore love (benefit for Moore tornado victims) Diversified Business Association

**Questions:**

**Q: What is the most important role for the Lieutenant Governor of Oklahoma?**

A. The most important role of the Lt. Gov. first and foremost to promote tourism in our state.

**Q: What would you do as Lieutenant Governor to promote tourism and economic development in Oklahoma?**

A. I not only would vacation in OK, like every Lt. Gov. should do, But I will promote our state parks and our attractions. From pie auctions in small towns to state fairs in Okc and Tulsa. I will do everything I can to show the world what a wonderful and unique place Oklahoma is. Economic Development... As I have been walking across the State of Oklahoma in every one of our 77 counties and nearly 300 towns and cities, I think we need to look at re-populating small town Oklahoma. This is a part of our state that has been both economically and politically ignored. We need to look at incentives to have young people move there and raise their families. we need to seriously consider marketing to new legal immigrants. We also need to look at growing our mid-size businesses already in Ok. instead of only looking to get businesses to move here from other states... ie, The truck manufacturing plant from Tulsa that moved their 300 jobs to Ohio.

**Q: What are the specific core services that state government should provide?**

A. State Government should provide: quality public schools, maintain our State Highways and bridges. As well as maintain our State Parks. Assure Oklahomans access to their own water. Provide quality children's services, Senior Citizens services, as well as maintain our Corrections Depts.

**(i) Todd Lamb (R)**

No response from candidate

# Superintendent of Public Instruction

The superintendent is the chief education officer of the state, and is responsible for giving advice and making recommendations to the State Board of Education regarding the public school system and the State Department of Education.



## John Cox (D)

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**Occupation:** Public School Superintendent

**Education:** B.S. Mathematics Ed, NSU;

**M.S. Counseling, NSU;**

**EdS School Administration, OSU;**

**EdD School Administration, OSU**

**Professional Experience:** Math Teacher/

**Coach:** Wyandotte (1986-88); Jay

(1988-1991); Locust Grove (1991-

1994).

**Superintendent/Principal:** Peggs Public School (1994-present).

**Adjunct Professor of Education-NSU, Educational Research & Statistics, and School Administration (2008-present).**

**Community Organizations:** President, Organization of Rural Elementary School (2006-present);

**Vice-Chair, Oklahoma Schools**

**Assurance Group (2009-present);**

**NSU Alumni Association Board**

**(2013-present);**

**NSU 21st Century Board**

**(2009-present);**

**OSU & NSU Lifetime Alumni Member;**

**Co-Chair, OSSBA/CCOSA Vision**

**Committee;**

**Chairman, Cherokee County Activities**

**Association**

## Questions:

**Q: At a time when public schools are struggling to provide the basic educational needs of students within the current funding framework, what**

**are your thoughts about the increasing costs, in both money and classroom time, of student testing?**

A. We over-test. Our focus and emphasis has shifted from using instructional time for teaching to using our instructional time to test prep. Instead of spending millions of dollars on high-stakes testing, we could better utilize these funds to buy much needed supplies for the classroom, increase teacher pay, hire more teacher and teachers assistants, and purchase much needed textbooks. Also, it would be more efficient of our time and money to allow teachers to teach curriculum instead of teaching our students how to answer test questions. As our school funding and number of teachers has decreased, while our number of students has increased by about 40,000 students since 2009, it is not only important that we are efficient with our spending, but that we advocate the legislature for more funds. We are at a point in public schools where our class size is too large to be effective and where we do not have adequate funds to pay for operational costs.

**Q: In your opinion, should charter schools play a role in education? If so, how should they be regulated and funded?**

A. I believe that the position of State Superintendent is for Public Instruction. There is a place for charter schools, but our focus should be on public education and fully funding public education first. Our public schools represent over 95% of our students and our emphasis should be placed in public schools. If charter schools are allowed to receive public funds, they should have the same standards of hiring as public schools are required to and they should have the same transparency of records as public schools. My question has always been, "Why don't we put the funds and resources that are needed into our public schools, and give public schools the opportunity to offer specialty areas that are afforded charter schools." My other concern is that while public schools are required to take every child that is at our doorstep, charter schools may be selective and are allowed to mandate requirements of parents that must be fulfilled or the

student will be sent back to public school.

**Q: Do you favor any sort of rating system for public schools? If so, what should a top-rated school look like?**

A. Rating schools only causes dissension and does not provide much value to increase student performance. I believe that our public schools should be accountable to the community and local school board and that it should be up to the local school district to be accountable to its patrons for its performance. A top-rated school is one that provides optimum opportunity for its students to be successful post high school. I believe that "opportunity" is what needs to be measured to value or judge a public school. To actually measure a school, I do not believe that it should be based solely off of the test scores of its students, but it should be evaluated on a whole school approach which includes formative tests and the learning environment that the school provides for its students throughout the school year. The current A-F grading system is both invalid and unreliable and should not be used to measure our public schools performance.



## Joy Hofmeister (R)

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**Education:** MBA, Oklahoma City

**University**

**Occupation:** Educator/CEO, Kumon

**Math & Reading Centers**

**Education:** Joy has a Bachelor's Degree

**in Education from Texas Christian University, and holds teaching certificates in English and Elementary Education. She is earning her Master's Degree in Educational Administration, Curriculum and Supervision with a specialty in Education Policy from the University of Oklahoma.**

**Professional Experience:** Joy is a former public school teacher and career educator. She has spent the past 15 years operating Kumon Math & Reading Centers, working with parents to ensure higher academic achievement for children. Leading a staff of 40, Joy serves 750 students from public, private, charter and home schools. Her professional training is in international curricular standards for math and reading. She served on the State Board of Education before resigning to challenge State Superintendent Janet Barresi.

**Community Organizations:** Community Service Council of Greater Tulsa, Jenks Public School Foundation, Jenks PTA, Jenks Select Committee for Study of School Finance, Southern Hills Baptist Church, Republican Women's Club of Tulsa, National Federation of Republican Women, Numerous other civic organizations.

## Questions:

**Q: At a time when public schools are struggling to provide the basic educational needs of students within the current funding framework, what are your thoughts about the increasing costs, in both money and classroom time, of student testing?**

A. The high-stakes nature of our current testing is out of balance. This imbalance affects our state education budget and has created a toxic environment in the classroom. One test, on one day, should not determine a child's future. High-stakes tests do not properly evaluate student learning and academic performance. Instead, such assessments only provide a snapshot of information on a given day. Tests should be tools used to inform and

## Commissioner of Labor

The Oklahoma Commissioner of Labor is an elected executive officer of the State of Oklahoma. The Labor Commissioner serves as the head of the Oklahoma Department of Labor. The Labor Commissioner is responsible for supervising the administration of all state laws relating to labor and workplace safety and gathers and publishes information about the workforce of Oklahoma.

(Joy Hofmeister continued)

adjust instruction for students. I will call for balance that results in less time and money spent testing and an increase for instruction.

**Q: In your opinion, should charter schools play a role in education? If so, how should they be regulated and funded?**

A. Yes. I support the decision of locally elected school board members who vote to add a charter school to their portfolio of district options for their families. Charter schools play a role in education and can be an incubator of innovation whose successes can be scaled to a broader group of students in our public school system. Charter schools should have the same requirements for transparency, accountability, and student performance as any other school receiving taxpayer funds.

**Q: Do you favor any sort of rating system for public schools? If so, what should a top-rated school look like?**

A. Yes. As a taxpayer, I support accountability and transparency in government. Oklahomans deserve an accountability system that is reliable, valid and meaningful. Our current system is flawed and oversimplifies the complexities of education. Communities and schools need good information in order to make good decisions. Information should be used to help, not punish. Our current metric reduces school performance to a single indicator, or label. I will work with researchers to develop a reliable, stable metric to assist in building school capacity. A top-rated school meets the educational needs of its students, preparing them for their next steps in learning. High quality schools have a collective trust between parents, students, teachers, school leaders and community. It begins with an effective teacher in every classroom and an effective leader in every building. My goal is to make the school around the corner a top choice for students and parents.

### (i) Mark Costello (R)

No response from candidate



### Mike Workman (D)

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**Workmanistan**

**Occupation:** Marketing & Public Relations

**Education:** Bachelor of Music, Instrumental Music Education, University of North Texas, Denton, Texas; Masters of Education, Education Supervision, University of North Texas, Denton, Texas; Post-graduate studies in Educational Administration, Arts administration, The University of Texas at Austin.

**Professional Experience:** Owner/President of Workman & Co., former public school teacher. Worked as a political consultant to elect Democrats to public office since 1978. In addition to election campaigns and office-holder projects, have developed and implemented numerous marketing and public relations projects.

**Community Organizations:** Democratic Party, Oklahoma Democratic Party, Tulsa County Democratic Party; United Methodist Men, New Haven United Methodist Church of Tulsa; Boston Avenue United Methodist Church of Tulsa; Elks Lodge #946 of Tulsa; Organizing For Action [OFA], Organizing For Oklahoma, Organizing For Tulsa; Democracy For America [DFA], DFA-Oklahoma, DFA-Tulsa; MoveOn, MoveOn Oklahoma, MoveOn Tulsa.

### Questions:

**Q: What factors should be considered in determining a minimum wage?**

A: The purchasing power of minimum wage has been eroded because it is not indexed to inflation. Economists clearly demonstrate that an increase will benefit the economy in Oklahoma just as such increases have helped in other states. Even those working full-time on minimum wage are still well below the poverty line and thus many now receive government assistance for food, housing, and other basic needs.

I support an increase to \$10.10 per hour and to have it indexed for inflation.

We should also phase-out the current exceptions where mostly food-service workers can be paid less than minimum wage.

If neither the federal government nor the Oklahoma Legislature acts on this issue, I will lead an effort to put a State Question on the ballot.

I also support taking steps towards a Livable Wage and would lead by example. All state employees in the Department of Labor will make at least \$15 per hour. And I would advocate that all public employees in Oklahoma also make at least \$15 per hour.

**Q: What specific changes would you make to improve working conditions for Oklahoma workers?**

A: The biggest change I would bring to this office is to restore respect for the men, women, and children now working in Oklahoma. The incumbent compared public employees to “feral hogs” and calls for him to apologize or resign went unheeded. Improved and more productive working conditions start by respecting the basic dignity of those working.

Workplace safety was not improved when the incumbent dealt with asbestos problems by cutting the number of inspectors in the Asbestos Abatement/Inspection Unit. I would restore it to previous levels to protect working

conditions and the safety of those using public and private buildings in Oklahoma.

To improve working conditions, staff levels will also be re-evaluated to ensure that there is enough staff in the following current divisions of the Oklahoma Department of Labor: Safety Pays OSHA Consultation, Safety, Industrial Hygiene, Public Employee Occupational Safety and Health, Safety Standards and Licensing, and the Elevator Inspection Unit.

**Q: Given that Oklahoma is a right to work state, how would you ensure that Oklahoma workers are able to use collective bargaining?**

A: The Labor Commissioner and the Oklahoma Department of Labor both exist to protect and promote the wages, benefits, and working conditions for everyone that is working now and in the future in Oklahoma. Those in labor unions usually have additional grievance procedures in place that even more specifically protect the interests of their members. The Department of Labor must ensure that all federal and state laws, rules, and procedures are properly followed by everyone involved within Oklahoma.

The Labor Compliance Officers in the department’s Wage and Hour Unit must continue to investigate, arbitrate, and ensure that any and all wages earned are paid in full and in a proper and timely manner. This often prevents any legal proceedings in small claims courts.

The department has limited rule-making authority that can also endure that any and all collective bargaining procedures in any and all federal and state laws and regulations are properly implemented throughout Oklahoma.

## U.S. Senate

The United States Senate is a legislative chamber in the bicameral legislature of the United States of America, and together with the U.S. House of Representatives makes up the U.S. Congress. Each U.S. state is represented by two senators, who serve staggered six-year terms. The Senate has several exclusive powers not granted to the House, including consenting to treaties as a precondition to their ratification and consenting to or confirming appointments of Cabinet secretaries, federal judges, other federal executive officials, military officers, regulatory officials, ambassadors, and other federal uniformed officers, as well as trial of federal officials impeached by the House.

### U.S. Senator (Full Term)



#### Aaron DeLozier (I)

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**Twitter:** <https://twitter.com/aarondelozierok>

**Occupation:** Customer Service

**Education:** Oral Roberts University

**Professional Experience:** Local Tea Party meetings.

#### Questions:

**Q: What are specific core services that government should provide?**

A: A national defense for the preservation and security of the citizens of the United States. It should also protect the freedom given to the citizens and the states as written in the Constitution. Anything beyond the scope outlined in the Constitution should not be provided by the federal government.

**Q: What should the federal government do about immigration reform?**

A: The federal government should follow the laws that are law right now. There are laws that provide how to handle immigration but they need to be followed and implemented in order to address immigration that is an ongoing concern. Each year the problem gets worse because we have partisan politicians that will not do what is best for the country

and do what they believe or think is best for themselves or their lobbying groups.

**Q: What role should the federal government play in supporting core services and infrastructure in this state?**

A: The federal government should have as little influence in the state as possible and should handle national interests and foreign policy, not be involved in state decisions. If the federal government is involved at the state level, then it is still the federal government and not the state government. The Constitution clearly and definitively sets an outline for the federal government and the state government.



#### Joan Farr (I)

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**Occupation:**

**Business consultant**

**Education:**

M.S. in Admin. of Justice, Wichita State U.

B.S. in Admin. of Justice, Wichita State U

A.A. in Liberal Arts, Butler Co. College

**Professional Experience:** I have 40+ years of experience, education and observation of our legal system. In addition, I worked for 17 years at Boeing in purchasing/contracts receiving a Secret Clearance to work on Air Force One from 1986-1990, 6 years in a small business building and selling homes, 11 years as C.E.O. of a non-profit organization and 3 years as a business consultant. I currently try

to help people resolve disputes before they turn into lawsuits according to Biblical principles.

**Community Organizations:** I am a member of the Broken Arrow Chamber of Commerce and Oklahoma Ethics in Tulsa, OK

#### Questions:

**Q: What are specific core services that government should provide?**

A: Except for the powers expressed in our Constitution, it is my opinion that each state should decide for itself in this regard. This is a question I would ask Oklahoma voters, since I plan to help give government back to the people by taking a poll of Oklahoma voters before I vote on any bill and then vote with the majority. This is government "of the people, by the people and for the people" that Abraham Lincoln spoke of and I agree with.

**Q: What should the federal government do about immigration reform?**

A: I feel that those immigrants who have been law-abiding and have not gotten in trouble for at least five years, they and their immediate families should be allowed to stay and given citizenship, and the rest should be deported. As it concerns the influx of immigrant children, I think the 2008 law should be revised so that this doesn't keep occurring which has been a great expense to our country. However, the children who have already entered should be allowed to stay because their entry was legal.

**Q: What role should the federal government play in supporting core services and infrastructure in this state?**

A: Oklahoma is in dire need of funds to repair roads and revise existing highway systems, and this money could come from the federal government. As far as educational initiatives such as Common Core and No Child Left Behind, I feel that the federal government should not be involved in each state's educational process. However, regardless of my personal view, I would poll the voters in Oklahoma and let them decide what role, if any, the federal government should play in supporting core services and infrastructure. It is important to improve quality of life and to increase student achievement, I would personally like to see a "No Child Left Alone" Act. This would allow parents to revise their work schedules so that there would always be a parent there in the morning before their child goes to school and one there when they return home. Children need to know that they are the priority in their parent's life and not their jobs that they go to each day.

### (i) Jim Inhofe (R)

*No response from candidate*



#### Matt Silverstein (D)

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**Occupation:** investment planner

**Education:** Matt is a lifelong Oklahoman, born and raised in Tulsa where he attended Jenks High School. Matt received his B.A. in Political Science at the University of Michigan.

**Professional Experience:** Matt Silverstein is not a politician, but a husband, new father, and trusted investment planner for Oklahoma families. Matt only takes Oklahoma families as clients and his secure and fiscally responsible approach to investing has resulted in national recognition for his business success in the financial industry. He has spent his career helping Oklahomans save and invest wisely, so their hard-earned money is there for their retirement and for their children and grandchildren.

**Community Organizations:** Matt Silverstein is not a politician, but a husband, new father, and trusted investment planner for Oklahoma families. Matt only takes Oklahoma families as clients and his secure and fiscally responsible approach to investing has resulted in national recognition for his business success in the financial industry. He has spent his career helping Oklahomans save and invest wisely, so their hard-earned money is there for their retirement and for their children and grandchildren.

#### Questions:

**Q: What are specific core services that government should provide?**

A: Matt is concerned that the big spending by BOTH parties in Washington is putting future generations hopelessly in debt, and he will use

## U.S. Senate Continued

his financial background to put our nation's fiscal house in order. Matt is running to fight for those working families who are being lost in a sea of despair because of the growing income disparity and the failure of elected leaders to solve problems. He will not sit quietly and watch a dysfunctional institution ignore the needs of working Oklahoma families. Matt understands the difference between wasteful spending and smart investments and that is why he is determined to get our fiscal house in order by attacking waste, making prudent investments and then getting out of the way so the economy can grow.

### **Q: What should the federal government do about immigration reform?**

A: Immigration is an issue that is near and dear to my heart. On one side of my family, my Native American ancestors settled here prior to statehood by surviving the brutal trek known as the Trail of Tears. On the other side, my Polish Jewish ancestors fled severe anti-Semitism by escaping the Warsaw Ghetto and migrated through Ellis Island. America is a story of immigrants welcoming other immigrants but always with reluctance. We need a strong and comprehensive policy that streamlines the bureaucracy and allows law abiding people who want to legally migrate and contribute to our economy to do so without unnecessary obstacles. I also agree with Ronald Reagan that if you don't protect your borders then you are not a country.

### **Q: What role should the federal government play in supporting core services and infrastructure in this state?**

A: This is an important question because Oklahoma's roads and bridges rank near the bottom in the entire country with a D and D minus score. People have come to understand you can never trust a road or bridge being built around election time. The federal government should play a limited role and supplement what the state cannot provide on its own. There are strings attached to federal dollars that are frequently counterproductive to long term prosperity. A perfect example are the roads and bridges you see being built right now that are already crumbling. We cannot trade quality for quantity when it comes to the security of our people. If we strike the right balance between a federal-state relationship then we can see a model of long term prosperity that creates jobs, helps businesses, and does not sacrifice safety.



### **Ray Woods (I)**

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#### **Questions:**

### **Q: What are specific core services that government should provide?**

A: Only what is establish within the Constitution of the United States.

### **Q: What should the federal government do about immigration reform?**

A: Follow the guidelines set forth in the Constitution of the United States.

### **Q: What role should the federal government play in supporting core services and infrastructure in this state?**

A: The Constitution of the United States delineates the obligations that the Federal Government has towards the States. Amendment X. ( The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.)

### **U.S. Senator (Unexpired 2 year term)**

### **Mark T. Beard (I)**

*No response from candidate*



### **Connie Johnson (D)**

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**Facebook:** Connie Johnson for US Senate  
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**Occupation:** State Senator  
**Education:** MS Rehabilitation Counseling  
BA French

**Professional Experience:** State Senator, 2005-Present; 1981-2005, Sr. Legislative Analyst, OK State Senate; 1977-1981 Public Service Employment Coordinator, City Of OKC; 1976-77 Public Information Training Officer, Oklahoma Community Action Director's Association.

**Community Organizations:** Coalition To Abolish The Death Penalty; Board Member - Family Builders, Southern Oklahoma Treatment Center and the Midwest City Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Prayer Breakfast Committee; All of Us or None (AOUN).

#### **Questions:**

### **Q: What are specific core services that government should provide?**

A: Government should collectively provide those core services that people cannot provide for themselves individually, such as infrastructure including roads and bridges, water systems and energy and environmental regulation; health care delivery systems; education; and public safety.

### **Q: What should the federal government do about immigration reform?**

A: The federal government should provide guidance and leadership to states and enact legislation that ensures a valid and accessible pathway to citizenship for those seeking to legally become US citizens.

### **Q: What role should the federal government play in supporting core**

### **services and infrastructure in this state?**

A: The federal government should ensure that allocated tax dollars to states for support of core services and infrastructure are administered fairly and equitably in ways that ensure equal access to and actual attainment of funding by all who wish to participate.



### **James Lankford (R)**

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**Twitter:** https://twitter.com/jameslankford

**Occupation:** Congressman for Oklahoma's Fifth Congressional District and Former Pastor

**Education:** Lankford received his undergraduate degree from the University of Texas and a Master of Divinity from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

**Professional Experience:** Prior to Congress, James served as director of Falls Creek Youth Camp from 1996 to 2009, the largest youth camp in the United States and remains active with Southern Baptists. He also coordinated mission trips and community service trips in Belize, Malawi, England, Wales, and Germany, as well as many areas of Oklahoma.

**Community Organizations:** James heavily participates in the middle school ministry at his church, Quail Springs Baptist Church. He also uses his gifts by speaking to countless ministries, churches and community.

#### **Questions:**

### **Q: What are specific core services that government should provide?**

A: The job of the federal government is to protect our right to “life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness,” not to limit our freedoms with over-regulation and over-reaching programs like Obamacare.

In maintaining that freedom, it is vital that our federal government supports a strong, commanding U.S. military. America has the strongest and most moral military in the world and this value cannot be compromised. National security should remain the number one Constitutional priority of the federal government.

A limited federal government is not merely a philosophical belief of mine but something I have put into real reforms. I authored the Health Care Compact, a bill to return oversight of healthcare fully to the states. I fought and won in 2012 for a measure that would return more control back to the states in highway projects.

Government works best when it is local and accessible. The farther decisions are made from an individual, the more you are just a number, not a neighbor.

**Q: What should the federal government do about immigration reform?**

A: Federal law enforcement has been limited by the Administration from enforcing illegal entry and employers struggle to verify documents or work through the red tape in the legal immigration process. Immigration is not about race or poverty, it is about the rule of law and a commitment to respect each person as created in the image of God. But, amnesty should be prohibited and each person must be held accountable for their actions.

Physical barriers and technology should be increased to support the terrific men

and women who work every day to secure our borders, but every border must be secured. We must also increase our interior enforcement around the country. More than 40% of all the people in our nation illegally, came to America with a legal short term visa, but they never left. We do not have a system to track people when and if they leave our country, even if they came legally.

The vision of the Statue of Liberty is still true, but the law also still stands.

**Q: What role should the federal government play in supporting core services and infrastructure in this state?**

A: The current administration continues to push more and more federal mandates on our state. Whether it be Obamacare or the federalization of education through Common Core, these are federal over reaches that must be pushed back.

I have worked tirelessly during my three years in the U.S. house to bring more control back to Oklahomans and our state. I worked to pass the Student Success Act to give more local control to schools. I also worked on the Unfunded Mandate Reform Act to limit federal over reach into local communities and private businesses.

Oklahoma Leaders in Transportation have supported my campaign because of my work to roll back burdensome transportation regulations that slow down the improvement of our state’s roads and bridges.

Oklahomans know what is best for their families and communities and should be able to make those decisions, not be told what to do by a Washington bureaucrat.

salaries and support personnel salaries, and the deterioration of our public schools.

**Q: With the increasing costs, in money and time, for student testing, should such testing be continued when schools are struggling to provide the basic education needs of students within the current funding framework? Why or why not?**

A: I have been in the education profession for some 36 total years. I have taught many young people who are now doctors, lawyers, air force pilots, politicians and millionaires. Those students did not have all of the testing that the state requires today. Much of this non-sense testing

needs to be stopped and let our teachers teach and stop devoting the 5-7 weeks of class time towards test prepping.

**Q: What untapped sources of revenue would you propose being pursued to improve state income?**

A: With the large energy corporations making a ton of money from Oklahoma, I think we should ask them to do more to support the state that supports them by giving them large tax breaks.

**(i) Kim David (R)**

*No response from candidate*

## Oklahoma State Representatives

The Oklahoma House of Representatives is the lower house of the legislature of the state of Oklahoma. Its members introduce and vote on bills and resolutions, provide legislative oversight for state agencies, and help to craft the state’s budget.

### State Representative District 16

**James Bo Delso (R)**

*No response from candidate*

**(i) Jerry Shoemaker (D)**

*No response from candidate*

### State Representative District 29

**James Leewright (R)**

*No response from candidate*

**Robert Bobby Talley (D)**

*No response from candidate*

### State Representative District 36

**Jim Massey (D)**

*No response from candidate*

**(i) Sean Roberts (R)**

*No response from candidate*

## Oklahoma State Senate

Oklahoma State Senators approve or reject gubernatorial appointments, and contribute to the creation of both state law and an annual state budget. Every ten years, they aid in drawing new boundaries for the electoral districts of the Oklahoma. The Oklahoma Senate also serves as a court of impeachment.

### District 18

**Charles R. Arnall (D)**

Address:

14078 W Shady Grove Rd

**Questions:**

**Q: What remedies will you propose to alleviate prison overcrowding, lack of funding for prison employees and deterioration of prison facilities?**

A: I personally feel that it would be more important to alleviate the overcrowding in our classrooms, the lack of funding for our public schools, which I mean teacher

## State Representative District 76



### (i)David Brumbaugh (R)

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**Email:** david@brumbaugh4house.com

**Website:** www.Brumbaugh4house.com

**Facebook:** None

**Occupation:** President / Owner DRB Industries LLC

**Education:** Bachelor of Arts (BA)

**Masters of Business Administration (MBA)**

**Executive Education**

**Professional Experience:** See bio too numerous to mention Wikipedia,

**Community Organizations:** www.Brumbaugh4house.com

#### Questions:

**Q: What remedies will you propose to alleviate prison overcrowding, lack of funding for prison employees and deterioration of prison facilities?**

A : As a member of Public Safety A &B and a volunteer for Prison Invasion Ministries for 15 years I have participated in helping relieve prison overcrowding more than most folks could even begin to understand. It started with my Hope Initiative to train youthful offenders to cut down on recidivism rates later. Also with my continued efforts and votes in A & B to get more money to our prisons along with tax exemptions for building chapels. Justice Reinvestment ... name it I have worked and continue to tirelessly work to get more money into Dept of Corrections for Oklahoma.

**Q: With the increasing costs, in money and time, for student testing, should such testing be continued when schools are struggling to provide the basic education needs of students within the current funding framework? Why or why not?**

A : I have an interim study this fall to address this very issue and return to a more appropriate type of testing like Iowa Based Skills at the beginning of the year and end of the year. Reducing the number of tests and gaining more quality teaching time in the classroom. Use of paper and pencil saving the state money. A return to problem solving/critical thinking / application that is comparable nationwide and globally. We need to cut our needless costs and time teachers are devoting to “too many tests and get down to teaching. We will be considering introducing legislation after this study.

**Q: What untapped sources of revenue would you propose being pursued to improve state income?**

A : We need to look at every tax credit and exemption in this state and see if they are providing a ROI (Return on Investment) in Economic Impact that was promised. If not those tax revenues need to go back into the Budget. I have proposed a bipartisan group of legislator’s to look at this to A&B. I am also participating in an interim study to look at Wind Energy tax credits.

This money can be used in critical areas such as Education, Roads, Bridges and Public Safety and the Truly Needy. This will add millions of dollars back to our state income.



### Glenda K. Puett (D)

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**Facebook:** Put a Teacher in the House District 76@facebook.com

**Occupation:** Retired teacher

**Education:** B.S. Elem. Ed Central OK University;

**M.Ed Elem. Ed Central OK University;**

**M.Ed. G/T OK City University**

**Professional Experience:** Mid Del Pub. Schools 6 yrs;

**Norman Pub Schools 3 yrs;**

**Watonga Pub. Schools 5 yrs;**

**Cleveland OK Pub Schools 4 yrs;**

**Union (Tulsa) Pub Schools 21 yrs;**

**Tulsa PS (subbing/tutoring) 2 yrs**

**Community Organizations:**

**CASA;**

**League of Women Voters;**

**Peters Elem Chess Club;**

**Heart of the Party;**

**Tulsa PLAC**

#### Questions:

**Q: What remedies will you propose to alleviate prison overcrowding, lack of funding for prison employees and deterioration of prison facilities?**

A : All of the service institutions in OK have been overlooked by a narrow minded legislature which cares more about votes than people by the continual cutting of tax money which diminish state coffers. I would vote to lower sentences on non-violent crimes, find funding by eliminating tax credits and support a state bond initiative to repair crumbling prison facilities. I do not support “for profit” prisons. I support more rehabilitation programs for drug offenders which would return those people as functioning citizens in our society. I know there are solutions. I welcome conversations to learn.

**Q: With the increasing costs, in money and time, for student testing, should such testing be continued when schools are struggling to provide the basic education needs of students within the current funding framework? Why or why not?**

A : High stakes testing is destructive to students and public schools. I do not support the continuation of such negative practices as research has shown that their results mean nothing. “College readiness” is the goal of NCLB and it is a noble aim, but leaves out and punishes those who are not successful “test takers” and have other talents which are being ignored. Our society depends on services provided by those who work with their hands, such

as mechanics, electricians, plumbers, construction workers, etc. To label those skills as being somewhat inferior by not being “college ready”, is ignoring the basics of our society. Public education needs to spend its limited funds to offer all students the opportunity to be successful at whatever their goals. High stakes testing is a waste of time and money.

The true aim of testing to allow a teacher the opportunity to reteach concepts not mastered and for a student to be able to advance when concepts are mastered. Period.

**Q: What untapped sources of revenue would you propose being pursued to improve state income?**

A : There are lists of corporations receiving state tax credits which those should be eliminated to generate more state funding. Oil and gas tax credits should be eliminated or lowered. I believe that all tax cuts which have been put into place by former legislatures should be frozen until public school funding is at the regional average, teacher pay is at the regional average and state employees receive adequate pay. By law citizens have to file out of state internet purchases, but voluntarily. I believe that out of state internet companies should add those taxes on to purchase prices and send that money to our state. We have to STOP tax cuts until our state can pay its bills.

## Oklahoma District Judge:

The Tulsa-Pawnee District Court (Judicial District 14) are courts of general jurisdiction, and hear almost all civil and criminal cases that originate in the District. In some cases, the parties are entitled to, and may demand, a jury trial; in all others, the trial is heard solely by the judge to whom the case has been assigned. The judges are designated for one of several divisions, so that the judges hearing criminal cases are particularly skilled in conducting and hearing such cases; similarly, the judges assigned to divorces and other domestic matters have developed skills in dealing with such matters impartially and fairly.

### District 14, Office 1



#### (i) William Kellough

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Prior to serving on the bench, I was a practicing lawyer in Tulsa and a shareholder for 25 years and President of the law firm of Boone, Smith, Davis, Hurst and Dickman. I was listed in Best Lawyers in America in three separate categories. I am a third generation Tulsan and graduated from the University of Texas School of Law in 1975. I am a graduate of Leadership Oklahoma, Class XVII, former President of the Oklahoma Health Lawyers Association and a leader in the Oklahoma and Tulsa County Bar Association. I was a member of the Gilcrease Museum Association Board and served as its President. I served for many years on the Tulsa City-County Library Commission and served as its Chairman. I am published in the Tulsa Law Journal and other scholarly journals and was awarded the Oklahoma Bar Association Excellence in Writing Award in 2009.

#### Questions:

**1) Describe the general nature of your law practice or other legal work you have done, the typical clients you have represented, areas of specialty or concentration, and how much you have practiced in the court you seek/ currently sit (including practice before another judge dealing with the same types of cases).**

My law practice evolved from a general civil practice to a specialty in healthcare mergers, acquisitions and consolidations. I tried cases in many Oklahoma counties and all Oklahoma federal courts. Upon election, I was assigned a felony criminal docket. I have presided over more than 135 jury trials and thousands of felony dispositions. In 2011 I was elected by my fellow judges as Presiding Judge for the 14th Judicial District which includes Tulsa and Pawnee Counties. During my 2 year, three month tenure as Presiding Judge, our court was awarded a \$300,000 planning grant from the U.S. Justice Department to create a more unified domestic violence court. I am currently the Chief of the Criminal Division, a member of the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Trial Judges Association and the Chairman of the Tulsa County Community Sentencing Council.

#### **2) What qualities (e.g. temperament, diligence, etc.) and experiences do you have that commend you to the judicial office you seek?**

I believe I have the two most important traits of character to serve effectively as a judge: even temperament and a scholarly and diligent approach in addressing all cases. Respect and fair treatment for all persons who come before the judge is essential and, in my 7 years on the bench, I have consistently applied this rule. Every case is important and unique and a trial judge must be attentive and prepared at all times. I believe I have developed a reputation for such diligence among my colleagues and the Bar. Another essential trait for a trial judge is decisiveness. Decisions must be made quickly and accurately and communicated with clarity. Again, I believe I have solid reputation in this area.



#### Caroline Wall

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Caroline Wall, native Tulsan and graduate of Edison High School, is a Constitutional Conservative seeking a second term as an elected judge. Currently running for District Judge, Judicial District 14, Office 1. Previously Elected in 2002 and served Tulsa County as Assoc. District Judge from 2003-2007. Judicial leadership and experience: civil and criminal cases, Chief of Tulsa County Criminal Division, Tulsa County Bar Association President's Award, commended by appeals court for "excellent job" as trial judge, US Dept. of Justice training to End Violence Against Women, Resonance Center for Women, Women's Offender Committee, TU Law School Intern Program, National H.S. Mock Trial Judge. Community Volunteer: Tulsa Area Alumnae Panhellenic Scholarship Chair, AXO national philanthropy to end domestic violence, Junior League of Tulsa. Education and Legal Experience: graduate Northwestern Univ., Evanston, IL, Loyola of Chicago School of Law, 20 years Christian lawyer. See Wall4judge.com

#### Questions:

**1) Describe the general nature of your law practice or other legal work you have done, the typical clients you have represented, areas of specialty or concentration, and how much you have practiced in the court you seek/ currently sit (including practice before another judge dealing with the same types of cases).**

Caroline Wall is a conservative Christian family lawyer. For nearly 25 years, Caroline has dedicated her career to helping families and children. Caroline has experience in all divisions of the district court assigned to elected district court judges: Civil, Criminal, Family, Juvenile, and Probate. Caroline previously served as Chief Judge of the Criminal Division. Prior to becoming elected as Associate District Judge of Tulsa County in 2002, Caroline was an associate attorney with Winters, King and Associates, Tulsa. After graduating from Loyola Law School of Chicago, Caroline was a practicing attorney in Chicago, IL and its surrounding counties, prior to returning home to Tulsa to raise her family. Caroline is currently a solo practitioner with her own law firm representing clients throughout the State of Oklahoma.

#### **2) What qualities (e.g. temperament, diligence, etc.) and experiences do you have that commend you to the judicial office you seek?**

As a Christian family lawyer and constitutional conservative, I will exercise justice with my Judeo-Christian values to ensure peoples' rights to swift justice and protect the rights of victims and juries. A Judge needs the strength of conviction to do what is right, regardless of politics or preconception - I am that Judge.

## District 14, Office 2



### Sharon Holmes

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Born in Tulsa, OK; August 16, 1959. Attended : St. Monica Catholic School; Holy Family Catholic School; Monte Cassino Catholic School; Graduated from Booker T. Washington H.S.(1977); Received B. A. degree from Loyola University, New Orleans (1981); Juris Doctorate Degree from Oklahoma City University School of Law. Served 6 ½ years in the United States Air Force – Commissioned Officer (Went to college on ROTC scholarship). Worked as Security Supervisor for HILTI Corp.; Served as an Asst. District Attorney in Tulsa County; Currently in private practice. Member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.; Oklahoma Bar Association; Tulsa County Bar Association.

#### Questions:

**1) Describe the general nature of your law practice or other legal work you have done, the typical clients you have represented, areas of specialty or concentration, and how much you have practiced in the court you seek/ currently sit (including practice before another judge dealing with the same types of cases).**

As a former Assistant District Attorney and currently a Criminal Defense Attorney, I have a vast amount of trial experience on the most likely docket assignment of a new District Judge. However if assigned a civil docket I have also represented clients in Family law and Juvenile cases, as well as Guardianships and Adoptions and other areas of Civil Law.

**2) What qualities (e.g. temperament, diligence, etc.) and experiences do you**

**have that commend you to the judicial office you seek?**

I am disciplined, knowledgeable in the law, impartial and fair. Along with those essential traits, I have a sense of self-deprecating humor that allows me to stay humble and real. I am respectful to all in everyday life and I will take that respect for others with me onto the bench as a judge. Along with my extensive courtroom trial experience, I am a mother, former janitor, former substitute teacher and former military officer ; taken together my life experiences have developed in me the demeanor that a good judge exhibits from the bench.



### Tanya N. Wilson

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**Facebook:** Tanya N. Wilson for Tulsa County District Judge

**Twitter:** @WilsonforJudge

Tanya N. Wilson is a candidate for Tulsa County District Court Judge, Judicial District 3. Ms. Wilson is a graduate of Booker T. Washington High School, Langston University and the University Of Tulsa College Of Law. She is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. As a former prosecutor in the Tulsa County District Attorney's office, for 7 years Ms. Wilson represented Tulsa County with the upmost integrity to seek justice for victims. Following her role as a prosecutor, Ms. Wilson transitioned to the juvenile court sector, and presently holds the title of Juvenile Court Case Manager. Ms. Wilson has served on the board for Tulsa Lawyers for Children, she is a member of the Child Protection Coalition and she is a graduate

of Leadership Tulsa's North Tulsa Development Council. Ms. Wilson serves as a Trustee in her church, Mt. Zion.

#### Questions:

**1) Describe the general nature of your law practice or other legal work you have done, the typical clients you have represented, areas of specialty or concentration, and how much you have practiced in the court you seek/ currently sit (including practice before another judge dealing with the same types of cases).**

2002-2009: Tulsa County ADA.

Prosecuted cases ranging from assault and battery to murder. Specialized in cases involving deprived children, sexual assault and crimes against children. Collaborated with the Tulsa County task force involving crimes against children and the Child Protection Coalition. Supervisor of the misdemeanor division.

2009- Present: Juvenile Court Case Manager. Facilitate cases involving deprived children and help remove any barriers to achieving permanency for deprived children. Worked with Oklahoma County officials to help coordinate the juvenile court case manager program in Oklahoma and participated in the selection of the personnel.

**2) What qualities (e.g. temperament, diligence, etc.) and experiences do you have that commend you to the judicial office you seek?**

Tanya N. Wilson knows and understands the needs of the North Tulsa community. She understands that keeping the citizens of North Tulsa safe is a high priority. She knows the responsibility of a judge is to be fair while providing justice for all citizens. Ms. Wilson understands the responsibility of a judge includes fairness to all parties, presiding over cases in an unbiased manner and understanding of the law.

## District 14, Office 8



### (i)Mark Barcus

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**Twitter:** @JudgeBarcus

With a B.A. from Austin College and a J.D. from the University of Texas, Mark Barcus returned to Tulsa in 1988 to practice law. Active in the community and in the schools, he became an elected Member of the Board of Education for Tulsa Public Schools. He was then chosen as Tulsa County's first Family Court Referee in 2000, appointed Special Judge in 2003 and then to a District Judgeship in 2012. Judge Barcus has also served as President, Chair and in other leadership roles for many local non-profits, including Neighbors Along the Line, the Arts & Humanities Council of Tulsa, Iron Gate, Charles Page Plan Steering Committee and West O'Main Improvement Association. A graduate of Booker T Washington High School, Judge Barcus was recently inducted into the BTW Hall of Fame. Mark Barcus is married to Mary Morrison Barcus and has an adult daughter, Audrey Jordan Barcus.

#### Questions:

**1) Describe the general nature of your law practice or other legal work you have done, the typical clients you have represented, areas of specialty or concentration, and how much you have practiced in the court you seek/ currently sit (including practice before another judge dealing with the same types of cases).**

Over the past 14 years, I have served as a trial judge in the civil, criminal, family

and juvenile divisions of our Court. Prior to that I had 12 years of practice as an attorney in complex litigation and in family law. This broad experience has helped me manage some of our largest and most complex dockets, and have been recognized for my efficiency in doing so. In 2011, I was honored by the Oklahoma Child Support Enforcement Association to be named its Legal Community Partner of the Year. I also continually advocate for court policies that promote efficient operations and better protect children and families. While I was Chief Judge of the Family Courts, we applied for and received a \$300,000 grant to develop a specialized docket to address domestic violence in ways that improve victim safety and increase offender accountability. This docket will launch this October.

**2) What qualities (e.g. temperament, diligence, etc.) and experiences do you have that commend you to the judicial office you seek?**

Be it a complex civil case, a felony, a dispute over the custody of a child or a simple ministerial function such as a name change, I try to be respectful to all who come before me. I read any authorities cited, listen to and consider arguments and then follow the law as applied to the facts. I may reject an argument or find that the cited authorities do not support the point, but I will always be thoughtful, deliberate and fair in my consideration. I also believe that a judge's role is not limited to the courthouse. We should be constructive voices in the community as issues are discussed that impact all of us. In 2012, the Community Service Council of Tulsa recognized me with its Community Service Award for over a decade of bringing CRASHs Court, a drunk driving awareness program, to area high schools.



**Doug Drummond**

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**Tulsa, OK 74135**

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**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Drummond-for-Judge/451676601600673>  
**Twitter:** @DrummondforJudge

I have worked at the District Attorney's Office for 17 years, including the last 12 years as the First Assistant District Attorney. I also have worked as a professional journalist and journalism professor.

I graduated from the University of Tulsa law school in 1991 and worked for four years as a law clerk for a federal judge. In addition to my law degree, I also have earned three other degrees: Ed.D (higher education administration); M.S. (Mass Communications) and B.S. news-editorial journalism.

Since 2007, I have been the editor of the Oklahoma Bar Association Criminal Law newsletter and have won several awards from that group, including Professional Advocate of the Year. I also have taught seminars for prosecutors on the state and national levels. I am active at my church, Southern Hills Baptist Church.

My wife, Dana, and I have three children: Liz, 28; Jack, 14; and Kathryn, 10.

**Questions:**

**1) Describe the general nature of your law practice or other legal work you have done, the typical clients you have represented, areas of specialty or concentration, and how much you have practiced in the court you seek/ currently sit (including practice before another judge dealing with the same types of cases).**

As the First Assistant District Attorney, I make decisions daily that both impact individuals in the community as well as public safety. Those decisions are based on objective evaluations of evidence as well as legal interpretations of the U.S. Constitution as well as a variety of Oklahoma statutes. I have prosecuted thousands of cases, including crimes against children, sexual assaults and homicide. In the past decade, I have prosecuted many of the most high profile cases in Tulsa County, including those involving the death penalty. In addition to my trial experience, I am responsible

for the day-to-day operations of one of the largest law firms in the state.

As a federal law clerk, I researched and wrote more than 200 legal opinions on all types of civil issues. I also interacted with federal judges on a daily basis and have interacted with judges on the state level for 17 years.

**2) What qualities (e.g. temperament, diligence, etc.) and experiences do you have that commend you to the judicial office you seek?**

I have been immersed for more 20 years in both criminal and civil law. I have significant trial experience with a keen understanding of the rules of evidence as well as the U.S. Constitution. I have demonstrated excellent research and writing skills in both my legal and journalism careers. I have significant leadership experience, making thousands of decisions that have impacted the community as well as determining justice for a myriad of citizens.

That knowledge and experience – coupled with my diverse educational background – have prepared me to be a quality judge for Tulsa County citizens. In my legal career, I have demonstrated the proper temperament, maturity and capability to fairly make decisions based on an objectively analysis of the law and facts. I have the experience to effectively manage a courtroom docket and my work ethic will ensure that litigants receive timely decisions and trials.

**District 14, Office 10**



**(i)Mary Fitzgerald**

**District 14, Office 10**  
**Phone:** (918) 749-7992  
**Address:** PO BOX 3226  
**Tulsa, OK 74114**  
**Website:** <http://judgefitzgerald.org/>  
**Email:** [judgefitzgerald@gmail.com](mailto:judgefitzgerald@gmail.com)

**Facebook:** Re-Elect Judge Mary Fitzgerald

**Twitter:** @judgemaryfitz

**Education:** J.D. University of Tulsa College of Law 1990  
 B.S. Education Oklahoma State University 1973  
 District judge for 14th judicial district office 10. Elected in Nov. 2006 assigned a civil jurisdiction docket. Chief Judge of Family Division 2008-2011. From 2002-2007 Judicial referee presiding over parenting plan conferences, drug court initial hearings, DUI court and economic exemptions for jurors. Also criminal arraignments, accountability truancy, cost dockets, guardianship disposition, juvenile show cause and juvenile detention. Eight years in private practice, five years at legal aid and contract work for the Williams Cos. Legal department. I have practiced in the areas of domestic, title and probate, collection, foreclosure and juvenile law.

**Questions:**

**1) Describe the general nature of your law practice or other legal work you have done, the typical clients you have represented, areas of specialty or concentration, and how much you have practiced in the court you seek/ currently sit (including practice before another judge dealing with the same types of cases).**

: I have been assigned a civil jurisdiction docket since elected in 2006. I am committed to creating a legal system that is expedient, cost-efficient and user friendly as demonstrated by my work as chief judge of the family division were we effectively integrated family court proceedings and created a more responsive judiciary.

**2) What qualities (e.g. temperament, diligence, etc.) and experiences do you have that commend you to the judicial office you seek?**

I have successfully served as a district judge and/or judicial referee for over 10years. it is important to show up for work, follow the law and be efficient. My temperament, hard work, and dedication to fairness and the rule of law commend me to the office of district judge.



## Eric Quandt

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**Tulsa, OK 74101**

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**Email:** JudgeQuandt

[EricQuandtforJudge2014.com](http://EricQuandtforJudge2014.com)

In 1985, I graduated from The University of Wisconsin, Madison with a B.A. in Communications. In 1988, I graduated from The University of Tulsa, College of Law with a J.D. Following law school, I established a private general civil law practice that I managed until 2008. My practice included jury trial experience in State and Federal Court. In 2008, I was nominated by the Oklahoma Judicial Nominating Committee and appointed by the Oklahoma Governor to serve as a Workers' Compensation Judge. In 2010, I was selected to serve as Vice-Presiding Judge of the Court for two years. My family and I are active supporters of the Red Cross, Infant and Family Services, Relay for Life, HALO Animal Rescue, Day Center For the Homeless and Jenks Public Schools.

### Questions:

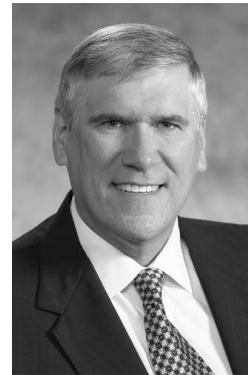
**1) Describe the general nature of your law practice or other legal work you have done, the typical clients you have represented, areas of specialty or concentration, and how much you have practiced in the court you seek/ currently sit (including practice before another judge dealing with the same types of cases).**

From 1988 to 2008, I managed a general civil practice including contracts, probate, civil litigation, workers' compensation and collections. I represented both Plaintiff's and Defendants with an emphasis on civil litigation and workers' compensation.

**2) What qualities (e.g. temperament, diligence, etc.) and experiences do you have that commend you to the judicial office you seek?**

As a Judge, I managed over 1250 claims at one time with a high level of productivity and accuracy. I wrote over 6,000 appealable judgments and issued over 12,000 preliminary orders in six (6) years. During that same period, I was rarely appealed to the Court of Civil Appeals. I treat all that come before me with dignity, respect and an even temperament which has resulted in nearly universal support of the attorneys who appear before me, both Plaintiff and Defense. I believe in an independent and faithfully impartial judiciary. I also support alternative dispute resolution such as mediation. I have served as a Settlement Judge with a 100% success rate, and have referred many claims to mediation.

## District 14, Office 14



## (i)Kurt Glassco

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**Tulsa, Oklahoma 74159**

**Website:** [http://www.](http://www.judgekurtglassco2014.com/)

[judgekurtglassco2014.com/](http://www.judgekurtglassco2014.com/)

**Facebook:** Re-Elect Judge Kurt Glassco

I'm a native Oklahoman, graduated from Tulsa Public schools, and graduated from Oklahoma State University and University of Tulsa law school. After law school I served as an assistant district attorney in Tulsa and the counsel to the governor. After 27 years of law practice I was appointed District Judge in 2009 by the governor and the public elected me to a full term in 2010.

I have been married for almost 30 years to Kathleen Glassco a church administrator and we have two daughters, one a recent graduate from the University of Oklahoma with a Master's degree and the second daughter a junior at Oklahoma State University. I am a licensed local pastor in the United Methodist Church and serve a church in Catoosa, Oklahoma.

### Questions:

**1) Describe the general nature of your law practice or other legal work you have done, the typical clients you have represented, areas of specialty or concentration, and how much you have practiced in the court you seek/ currently sit (including practice before another judge dealing with the same types of cases).**

In my 32 years of practice, I have served as a public prosecutor, counsel to the governor, and contract public defender in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma. My private practice experience included civil matters, family and juvenile law, criminal, personal injury, administrative and probate

and guardianships. Since 2009 I have presided over a criminal felony docket and adjudicated more than 1100 cases annually.

**2) What qualities (e.g. temperament, diligence, etc.) and experiences do you have that commend you to the judicial office you seek?**

I am proud to serve the citizens of Tulsa and Pawnee counties. I strive everyday to treat each person fairly, with dignity and due regard to the laws and constitution of our state and nation. My docket stays in very good shape and has less than 68 persons in custody awaiting trial. No one is in custody on my order for costs or work hours alone.

I encourage alternative courts for those suffering with addictions. Treating our fellow citizens fairly means that most get a second chance and some go to prison, even on their first felony offense. I agree with Thomas Jefferson, who defined justice as equal treatment under the law.

As a district judge I give the plain meaning of the law without regard to status or station in life for those who appear before me. And hold the government and individuals accountable under the law.

## Oklahoma Judicial Retention Candidates



### Jill Webb

**Phone:** 918-516-8799

**Address:** PO Box 2853

**Tulsa, OK 74101**

**Website:** [checkthewebb.com](http://checkthewebb.com)

**Email:** [info@checkthewebb.com](mailto:info@checkthewebb.com)

**Facebook:** [Jill Webb for District Judge](#)

**Twitter:** [@CheckTheWebb](#)

Raised in a traditional family in Midland, Texas, my father is a petroleum geologist and my mother was a housewife. I walked to elementary school without fear, and spent evenings at the family dinner table. I earned a BS from Texas A&M. I spent 8 years teaching high school students with talents ranging from highly academically gifted to tragically academically lost. Next, I served in the Peace Corps and lived with the nuns of the Armenian Sisters of the Immaculate Conception. Law school was at Chicago Kent, nearly 5 years as a public defender, 4 years in private practice. Married and blessed by a 3 year old daughter, Beckett Elizabeth.

Our criminal courts are broken, and they need leadership to fix them. Because I believe in accountability, integrity, and fairness, I'm running for District Judge of Tulsa and Pawnee counties.

#### Questions:

**1) Describe the general nature of your law practice or other legal work you have done, the typical clients you have represented, areas of specialty or concentration, and how much you have practiced in the court you seek/ currently sit (including practice before another judge dealing with the same types of cases).**

I practice criminal defense. I do so, not out of a love for criminals, but out of a deep conviction that everyone deserves to be treated fairly. My experience reflects our courts in general: a tremendous amount of

non-violent drug cases, and some cases in which my clients were innocent, charged with crimes they did not commit. And, in a few cases, I stood by clients who had done something terrible, and I made sure they properly pleaded guilty or that they had a fair trial before being sentenced by their peers.

Sometimes I fight for the person, but every time I fight for the Constitution, and our Constitution demands everyone has an honest advocate before legal consequences are determined. My professional role model is the Founding Father John Adams.

I have also practiced in other areas, but my expertise, experience, and interest is in criminal law.

#### **2) What qualities (e.g. temperament, diligence, etc.) and experiences do you have that commend you to the judicial office you seek?**

In addition to experience and expertise, I have the temperament of a judge: I am emotionally steady and consistently respectful. I'm impressed by logical, thorough legal arguments rather than by a person's appearance or financial status.

On a practical level, I'm willing to closely monitor defendants on felony probation and hold them swiftly and consistently accountable. Courts which have supervised in this way reduced repeat offenses by half. By holding probationers responsible from the beginning, and stopping the revolving door to the penitentiary, we will save tax dollars and keep families together. I'm running because I can help fix a system that everyone knows is broken.

When I enter the court as Judge Webb, and people stand at "All Rise," they will not be standing for me, but for the principles of fairness, impartiality, and accountability, and I will live up to that honor.

According to the Oklahoma Constitution, the method in which Oklahoma Supreme Court and Court of Criminal Appeals judges are chosen provides for a retention ballot on which voters indicate "yes" or "no" on whether a justice or appellate judge should be retained in office based on their performance in office.

Appellate judicial terms are for six years. Appellate judges are first appointed by the governor from a list of three names of qualified individuals prepared by the Judicial Nominating Commission. At the end of their terms, appellate judges wishing to remain in office must declare their candidacy for retention. When a judge seeks retention, the judge's name is placed on the ballot at the next general election. If the judge does not file for retention or is not retained by voters, the governor appoints a new judge. Appellate judges cannot be listed on the ballot by their political party. The Oklahoma Constitution provides that if an appellate judge does not receive a majority of "yes" votes, the office becomes vacant and the governor appoints a replacement. At least one-third of all appellate offices appear on the retention ballot at each state general election.

The following offices are on the ballot for Judicial Retention:

### Supreme Court of the State of Oklahoma:

**Vice-Chief Justice  
John F. Reif**

*District No. 1*

#### Chief Justice

**Tom Colbert**

*District No. 6*

#### Justice

**Joseph M. Watt**

*District No. 9*

### Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals:

**Gary L. Lumpkin**

*District No. 3*

### Oklahoma Court of Civil Appeals:

**Judge Deborah Barnes**

*District No. 2 Office 1*

**Judge Jerry Goodman**

*District No. 1 Office 1*

**Judge Brian Jack Goree**

*District No. 6 Office 2*

**Judge W. Keith Rapp**

*District No. 2 Office 2*

**Judge Jane Wiseman**

*District No. 1 Office 2*

## Supreme Court of the State of Oklahoma

The Oklahoma Supreme Court has appellate jurisdiction in civil matters. There are nine justices who serve six-year terms. A justice is appointed from and must reside within a designated geographic district of the state.



### Vice-Chief Justice John F. Reif

#### *District No. 1*

Appointed: October 22, 2007 by Governor Brad Henry  
Born: June 19, 1951  
Education: Cascia Hall of Tulsa, 1969  
University of Tulsa, Bachelor's, 1973  
University of Tulsa, Juris Doctor, 1977  
Business & Professional Positions: Planner and Grants Specialist for the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, Indian Nations Council of Government, 1974 – 1977; Assistant District Attorney for Tulsa County, 1978 – 1981; Business Law Adjunct Professor; Oral Roberts University, 1983 - 2007  
Public Service: Police Officer for the City of Owasso, Oklahoma, 1973 – 1975; Faculty Member, National Tribal Judicial Center of the National Judicial College, Reno, Nevada  
Judicial Service: Special District Judge for the Fourteenth Judicial District, 1981 – 1984; Judge for the Oklahoma Court of Civil Appeals, 1984 – 2002; Court's Vice Chief Judge, 1993 and 2001; Chief Judge, 1994 and 2002  
Awards: Oral Roberts University – President's Distinguished Service Award, 1995  
Professional Organizations: Oklahoma Bar Association, 1978 to present  
Justice Reif and his late wife had been married 35 years at the time of her death in 2008.



### Chief Justice Tom Colbert

#### *District No. 6*

Admission to Bar: April 1983  
Justice Tom Colbert, the first African-American to serve on the Supreme Court of Oklahoma, was born in Oklahoma City. He graduated from Sapulpa High School, earned an associate's degree from Eastern Oklahoma State College in 1970, and a bachelor of science degree from Kentucky State University in 1973. While at Kentucky State, Justice Colbert was named an All-American in track and field. Justice Colbert served in the United States Army and received an honorable discharge in 1975. He earned a master of education degree from Eastern Kentucky University in 1976 and taught in the public schools in Chicago. Justice Colbert received his juris doctorate from the University of Oklahoma in 1982. He was an Assistant Dean at Marquette University Law School from 1982-1984 and an Assistant District Attorney in Oklahoma County from 1984-1986, before entering private law practice at Miles-LaGrange & Colbert from 1986-1989. Justice Colbert continued his practice under the name Colbert and Associates from 1989-2000



### Justice Joseph M. Watt

#### *District No. 9*

Watt was born in Austin, Texas. He graduated from Austin High School in 1965, received a bachelor's degree in history/government from Texas Tech University in 1969, and a Doctor of Jurisprudence from the University of Texas Law School in 1972. Watt moved to Altus, Oklahoma, in 1973, where he worked in private law from 1973 to 1985. Watt was appointed special district judge for Jackson County in 1985, and was elected associate district judge in 1986. Watt was appointed as Justice to the Oklahoma Supreme Court in 1992. Chief Justice Watt was the first justice in Oklahoma history ever to be elected to a consecutive two-year term, 2005-2006. Watt is a member of the Oklahoma and Texas bar associations. Justice Watt was retained by the voters of Oklahoma in 1994, 1996, 2002, and 2008. He is married to Cathy and they have four children and three grandchildren.

## Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals

The Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals has appellate jurisdiction in criminal matters. Each of the 5 judges is appointed from and must reside within one of five geographic districts of Oklahoma.



### Gary L. Lumpkin, Judge

#### *District No. 3*

Gary L. Lumpkin was appointed from Judicial District No. 3 in November 1988 by Governor Henry Bellmon and took office January 9, 1989. Originally a native of Sentinel, Oklahoma, Judge Lumpkin and his wife subsequently established their home in Madill. Judge Lumpkin graduated from Southwestern State College, Weatherford, OK, in 1968 and the University of Oklahoma School of Law in 1974. He was admitted to the Oklahoma Bar Association in 1974. Judge Lumpkin served with the U.S. Marine Corps 1968-71, serving 18 months in Vietnam. He continued serving in the reserves and retired after 30 years of service with the rank of Colonel. He served as Associate District Judge, Marshall County and District Judge 20th Judicial District 1982 to 1989.

# Oklahoma Court of Civil Appeals

The Court of Civil Appeals is the intermediate court with appellate jurisdiction in civil matters. Of the twelve judges, two are appointed from each Oklahoma congressional district. The Court has four divisions, two divisions located in Oklahoma City and two in Tulsa.



## Judge Deborah Barnes

### *District No. 2 Office 1*

Admission to Bar: 1984

Deborah B. Barnes, Chief Judge of the Oklahoma Court of Civil Appeals, received a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Oklahoma in 1976, and in 1983, a J.D. Degree, with distinction, from the Oklahoma City University School of Law where she graduated first in her class. Barnes was an attorney with Crowe & Dunlevy and subsequently a staff attorney for the late Supreme Court Justice Ralph Hodges. In 1989 she resumed private practice at Stack and Barnes in Oklahoma City until 1991 when Barnes moved to Tulsa to join Transok as an in-house attorney. Barnes was named Vice President, Human Resources and Administration for Transok in 1996 and later became Vice President, Secretary and Associate General Counsel for ONEOK, Inc from 1997-2001. In 2002, she joined the firm of Crutchmer, Browers, & Barnes. Barnes was appointed to the Oklahoma Court of Civil Appeals in April, 2008. She is married to Ron Barnes and has one son, Grayson.



## Judge Jerry Goodman

### *District No. 1 Office 1*

Judge Jerry L. Goodman was born in Mangum, Oklahoma, received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Tulsa in 1961 and his Juris Doctorate degree from the Georgetown University Law Center in 1964, the same year he was admitted to the Oklahoma Bar. He served to the rank of Lieutenant in the U.S. Naval Reserve. He was appointed to the Oklahoma Court of Civil Appeals in 1994. He is a member of the Oklahoma Bar Association, the Tulsa County Bar Association, the American Judicature Society and the Oklahoma Judicial Conference which he served as President. He is married to Donna R. Goodman, a retired school teacher. They have four adult children, Courtney, Polly, Mallory and Benjamin and four granddaughters.



## Judge Brian Jack Goree

### *District No. 6 Office 2*

Judge Brian Jack Goree, District 6, Office 2. Born March 18, 1964, Goree was raised in Tulsa and earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry from the University of Oklahoma in 1986. He received his law degree from the University of Tulsa in 1989. Goree was

in private practice in Tulsa for twenty-three years, primarily focusing on legal research and writing. He is a registered patent attorney and a past chairman of the Appellate Practice Section of the Oklahoma Bar Association. Governor Mary Fallin appointed Goree to the Oklahoma Court of Civil Appeals in 2012. He and his wife, Jill, have four children.



## Judge W. Keith Rapp

### *District No. 2 Office 2*

Chief Judge appointed Dec. 1984. Retained by election Nov. 1990, Nov. 1996, Nov. 2002 and Nov. 2008. Former Vice Chief Judge. Southwest Missouri State University B.S. in Mathematics and Chemistry 1958, Graduate studies in Mathematics and Statistics, University of Missouri, University of Arizona, University of Minnesota, University of Tulsa J.D. 1968, and University of Virginia M.L. in Judicial Process 1990. Associate Editor Tulsa Law Journal. Recipient Scholarship Key. Admitted to practice Oklahoma 1968, U.S. District Courts Northern, Eastern and Western Districts of Oklahoma, U.S. Court of Appeals Tenth Circuit and U.S. Supreme Court. Judge, Bixby Municipal Court 1976-77. Alternate Judge, Tulsa Municipal Court 1977-78. District Judge, Oklahoma District Court Fourteenth Judicial District 1981-83. Prosecutor Broken Arrow 1969-71. Public Defender Tulsa 1970-71.



## Judge Jane Wiseman

### *District No. 1 Office 2*

Judge Jane P. Wiseman earned a B.A. degree from Cornell University, an M.A. degree from the University of North Carolina (Chapel Hill), and a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Tulsa College of Law. She was an attorney with Rosenstein, Fist & Ringold and subsequently was appointed a Special Judge for Tulsa County in 1977. In 1981, the Governor appointed her a District Judge for Tulsa and Pawnee Counties where she served in the Family Relations and Civil Divisions. She was appointed to the Court of Civil Appeals in Tulsa in March 2005. She has served on the faculty of the National Judicial College in Reno, Nevada, and has taught case management for the National Judicial College and the American Academy of Judicial Education. She and her husband, Jim Hodges, have four sons, Jamie, John, Clayton and Kevin, and they are expecting their second grandchild.

## Tulsa City Council:

The Tulsa City Council functions as the legislative branch of city government. The Council discusses and passes laws addressing local concerns (called City Ordinances); if the Mayor vetoes a law, the Council can override the veto by a vote of at least six councilors. Through these ordinances, the Council provides for licenses, permits, and certificates issued by city departments and agencies. The Council approves or modifies the budget submitted by the Mayor, and has the power to conduct investigations and hearings concerning the conduct of city government.

### City Council, District 3



#### (i)David Patrick

Phone: (918) 836-2356

Address: 5809 E. Tecumseh st  
Tulsa OK 74115

Website: [www.friendsforpatrick.com](http://www.friendsforpatrick.com)

Email: [irishman4@cox.net](mailto:irishman4@cox.net)

Occupation: Owner Patrick's Auto Service

Education: Graduated Will Rogers High School 1969

Professional Experience: This is my 5th term as city councilman of district #3 and I have successfully own and operated the family business since 1975 which is auto repair ,rental property commercial and residential and the family farm in Colorado.

Community Organizations: Dawson neighborhood association, Masons and Shriners

#### Questions:

**Q: What is your plan for communicating with your constituents in order to keep them well informed about City issues?**

A : In the past, constituents have called emailed, faxed and written letters, any time day or night.

Phone: 918-596-1923 Fax: 918-596-1964

Email: [dist3@tulsacouncil.org](mailto:dist3@tulsacouncil.org)

Mailing address is:

Tulsa city Council  
175 E. 2nd st 4th floor  
Tulsa. OK. 74103

**Q: What do you propose be done to stimulate the revenue stream in Tulsa?**

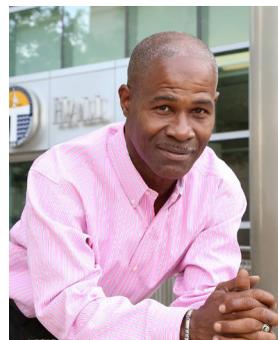
A : By state law Tulsa revenue can only

come from sales tax , so we either increase sale tax or make Tulsa more attractive to people so they will come and enjoy Tulsa and spend more money. I think that's better than raising taxes.

**Q: What do you see as Tulsa's most pressing infrastructure need and how would you propose resolving that need?**

A : We just pass the improve our Tulsa package and it has the largest street infrastructure ever, that will run through year 2021.

Now the highest priorities infrastructure are aging water and sewer line , we are currently in discussions with the TMUA authority about a long range plan for our water and sewer systems.



#### Virgil Lee Wallace, Sr

Phone: (918) 835-1456

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Website: [www.virgilwallace.com](http://www.virgilwallace.com)

Email: [vwallace@arrowsecurity.net](mailto:vwallace@arrowsecurity.net)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/virgilwallace2014?ref=hl>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/virgilwallace>

Occupation: Protective Services

Education: Master of Entrepreneurial Studies and Research, Emphasis in Business

Expected Grad: May 2013

LangstonUniversity Bachelor's Degree in Liberal Arts, Emphasis in Behavioral Science Graduation: May 2010

Langston University Associates

Degree in Arts, Emphasis in Education

Graduation: May 2008

Tulsa Community College

Associate Degree in Fire and Safety,

Tulsa Community College

Associates Degree in Applied Science, Emphasis in Law Enforcement

Graduation: May2005

Tulsa Community College

Professional Experience: Armed

& Unarmed Security, Consulting, Bail Bonding, Process Serving, and Investigations

Coordinate daily activities to insure customer satisfaction and compliance with state and federal regulations.

Responsible for recruitment, screening, and selection of candidates, development and implementation of staffing and recruitment plans/ programs to source candidates, development of business relationships with potential candidate sources, assessing effectiveness of recruitment activities, ensuring...

Community Organizations: City of Tulsa Transportation Advisory Board

#### Questions:

**Q: What is your plan for communicating with your constituents in order to keep them well informed about City issues?**

A : Town Hall Meetings, Phone (cell and Office), Email and having an open door policy to all.

**Q: What do you propose be done to stimulate the revenue stream in Tulsa?**

A : Joining with Community leaders, Church leaders, Business owner, and Associations to form a coalition to advocate action on important issues affecting district 3 and the city of Tulsa.

**Q: What do you see as Tulsa's most pressing infrastructure need and how would you propose resolving that need?**

A : Education, Economic Sustainability, Public Health and Safety, Jobs Creation, Race Relations and Awareness, Streets, Voting Rights, and Political Representation In North Tulsa.

### City Council, District 6



#### Connie Dodson

Phone: (918) 234-3102

Address: 13302 E. 28th St., Tulsa, OK 74134

Website: [www.conniedodson.com](http://www.conniedodson.com)

Email: [conniedodson@cox.net](mailto:conniedodson@cox.net)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/conniedodson.oklahoma>

Occupation: Photographer, Graphic Designer, and Author

Education: Pursuing English Degree, Northeastern State University; AS, Liberal Arts, Tulsa Community College, 2005

Professional Experience: Business Owner 2005 - Present; City of Tulsa: Administrative Assistant, Tulsa Transit Authority, 2000-2005; Advantage Care Provider, DHS, 2010-2013

Community Organizations: Tulsa Public Schools Bond Development Committee; Legislative Advocate, for Veteran Issues, since 2002; Disabled American Veteran's Auxiliary, Since 1994 (Past Treasurer/Junior Vice/Audit Committee); American Legion Auxiliary; Friends of the Tulsa City-County Libraries; Oklahoma Education Association; Parent and Teacher Association; Tulsa Zoo Friends; Tulsa Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, numerous photography & writer groups; this list includes both current/past affiliations.

#### Questions:

**Q: What is your plan for communicating with your constituents in order to keep**

**them well informed about City issues?**

A : I plan on having regular district meetings, but I'm also considering other forms of communication. Those could include digital media, mobile apps and auto calls.

**Q: What do you propose be done to stimulate the revenue stream in Tulsa?**

A : Tulsa must continue to address infrastructure needs so that we remain a top choice for corporate relocation and industrial growth. We also need to continue developing areas that stimulate tourism.

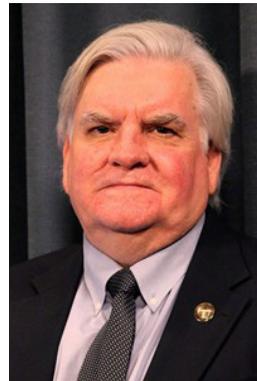
Tulsa is woven with a history of diverse cultures, art deco, the Route 66 corridor, a growing downtown and arts district and the river. We must continue to embrace and cultivate these areas where we are achieving success, but we must also look to the future in developing additional assets. In 2010 OKC's Bricktown made the top 10 list of America's Coolest River Walks. That could be Tulsa. We have a great start with our bicycle and pedestrian trails, sculptures, and other river development. Continued and reasonable development of the river would position us for additional revenue by increasing tourism and attracting business and residential growth.

**Q: What do you see as Tulsa's most pressing infrastructure need and how would you propose resolving that need?**

A : Maintaining the infrastructure is a balance, limiting our focus creates an imbalance. The Improve Our Tulsa propositions approved by voters last fall began to address many infrastructure needs. Those areas included roads and bridges, police and fire, the transit, bicycle, and pedestrian infrastructure, parks and recreation, performing arts, and many others. What I didn't see specifically addressed in the Improve Our Tulsa package is the water and sewer infrastructure. Tulsa must continue to address the changing needs of our infrastructure in a way that makes sense and maintains balance.

We will fail to grow as a city and attract business if we fail to provide safe streets and a public transit system that allows our diverse work force a means to get to work. We must provide for the parks, the arts,

and the recreational opportunities that the city has become known for, and we must provide for public safety and public services to support our growing needs.



**(i)Skip Steele**

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**Occupation:** Computer Technician

**Education:** Bachelors Degree in Business

**Professional Experience:** Worked as an engineer for Telex for 13 years and been self employed in the computer service when Telex went under.

**Questions:**

**Q: What is your plan for communicating with your constituents in order to keep them well informed about City issues?**

A : I have and will continue to have monthly town hall meetings at the Martin Regional Library the first Tuesday of every month 6:30 PM.

**Q: What do you propose be done to stimulate the revenue stream in Tulsa?**

A : The best way to stimulate Tulsa is to bring in new good paying jobs. I continue to work closely and support the Regional Chamber as well as support Tulsa having a closing fund to compete equally with other communities that are also soliciting industries to come to their community. attracting business and residential growth.

**Q: What do you see as Tulsa's most pressing infrastructure need and how would you propose resolving that need?**

A : The most pressing infrastructure needs of Tulsa are our streets and aging water delivery system. The voters approved a record amount of funds to help address our Streets and during the next 5 years we will be experiencing a lot more orange barrels

as this plan gets implemented. As for our water system as streets are rehabilitated the water and sewer systems below are being replaced. Also in the near future the AB Jewel Water treatment plant will need to be expanded.

**City Council, District 7**



**Anna America**

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**Occupation:** Director, Communities in Schools/Tulsa

**Education:** B.A., University of Tulsa

**Professional Experience:** Have worked primarily in communications, including as a reporter at Tulsa Tribune COVERING City Hall and about 6 years working AT City Hall (in Parks, Public Works and Mayor's Office), plus extensive work as communications consultant. Moved into non-profit management, serving as Executive Director for Up With Trees for 6 years; in May, 2014, moved to Communities in Schools. In 2010, was elected to the Tulsa School Board, becoming vice president before resigning after moving to another district.

**Community Organizations:** Over the years have been: longtime soccer coach, longtime Girl Scouts leader, PTA officer, church parenting group chair, neighborhood association president, PlaniTulsa committee member, Facilities Committee member for the Parks Master Plan project, 11th Street Corridor Task Force member, Rotary of Tulsa member, Leadership Tulsa graduate, volunteer for many organizations (many school programs, Meals on Wheels, Habitat for Humanity,

Mayfest and many others).

**Questions:**

**Q: What is your plan for communicating with your constituents in order to keep them well informed about City issues?**

A :

1. I will work to develop an extensive email network of constituents, and send out news and notices via email, and encourage Tulsans to talk to me via email.

2. I will use social media, including Facebook and Twitter, to get feedback from voters and to communicate latest happenings and issues.

3. I will attend a meeting of every neighborhood association in my district, and will try to meet informally at least a couple of times a year with presidents of neighborhood associations to listen to them about what issues are important to their members.

4. I will meet regularly with any merchants' groups in the district to get their input.

5. I will spend as much time as possible out and about in the district, and will look for opportunities -- whether I am at the sidelines of a soccer match or shopping at Target -- to listen to Tulsans to see what is important to them.

**Q: What do you propose be done to stimulate the revenue stream in Tulsa?**

A : Tulsa depends primarily on sales tax to fund day-to-day operations. District 7 has the biggest chunk of sales-tax revenue-producing businesses (It includes Woodland Hills and the 71st Street corridor, South Memorial development, the Farm.). In recent years, we've seen declining sales tax revenue. The City needs to dig into the numbers to figure out the cause and then devise a strategy--we know internet sales is a factor but doesn't explain the whole drop. In talking to business owners, possible contributing factors mentioned include: traffic problems, public safety concerns (like cars getting broken into in parking lots), bad streets/ infrastructure, poorly planned construction projects that impeded business, inadequate public transportation. Those are all core city services and we need to make sure we are delivering those services in a way that supports businesses, rather than gets in

their way. If the businesses do well, sales tax revenue goes up and the entire city benefits.

**Q: What do you see as Tulsa's most pressing infrastructure need and how would you propose resolving that need?**

A: Streets. Too many years of neglect have resulted in dangerous, vehicle-jarring streets all across the city. The CIP package approved in November will address some of the problems but we need to continue catching up with delayed maintenance and then KEEP up. However, it is important that we do projects smartly -- too often projects are planned and implemented in a very uncustomer-friendly way, unnecessarily blocking access to businesses or neighborhoods, for example. And we need better coordination, within City departments AND with other entities such as PSO and ONG, so that the same street isn't torn up one month for repaving and then the next month for water or gas lines.



**(i)Arianna Moore**

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**Occupation:** City Councilor, Personal Marketing Assistant  
**Education:** Bachelor of Arts in Communication from University of Tulsa  
**Professional Experience:** Elected to City Council in 2012 as the youngest councilor ever.  
**Personal Marketing Assistant at MetLife for almost five years.**  
**Community Organizations:** Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women,

**Counseling and Recovery Services**

**Questions:**

**Q: What is your plan for communicating with your constituents in order to keep them well informed about City issues?**

A: I will communicate however my constituents want. The best way to contact me is email as I typically respond to emails within 24 hours. I send updates to Homeowner Associations and will gladly add any group or individual if they want to be included. I attend any and all HOA meetings. I have yet to miss one I have been invited to. Also, with my new website, I hope to provide important information more easily.

**Q: What do you propose be done to stimulate the revenue stream in Tulsa?**

A: I want to encourage new and exciting businesses to come to Tulsa, businesses that attract people from surrounding communities and out of state. Also, educating the public on use tax to capture the sales tax we lose to internet businesses

**Q: What do you see as Tulsa's most pressing infrastructure need and how would you propose resolving that need?**

A: As always, streets. We are constantly trying to figure out ways to supplement other needs within the general fund to allow more money to go to streets and public safety. For example, the mayor and council are looking into consolidating city and county parks. This agreement would be similar to the library and allow other funding sources to pay for park maintenance. I am constantly exploring new ideas to help better the city.

**City Council, District 9**



**(i)G.T. Bynum**

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**Occupation:** Managing Partner, Capitol Ventures

**Education:** B.A., Villanova University

**Professional Experience:** G.T. Bynum has represented District 9 on the Tulsa City Council since 2008. He is also the Managing Partner of Capitol Ventures.

**Prior to this, G.T. served on the senior management team for Williams & Williams and as the Public Information Officer for the Tulsa Area Chapter of the American Red Cross. Earlier in his career, G.T. worked for 6 years in the United States Senate as a policy aide to Senators Don Nickles and Tom Coburn.**

**Community Organizations:** Leadership Oklahoma (Board of Directors), Leadership Tulsa (Past Board Member), Tulsa Historical Society (Past Board Member), Christ the King Parish.

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**Leadership Oklahoma (Board of Directors), Leadership Tulsa (Past Board Member), Tulsa Historical Society (Past Board Member), Christ the King Parish.**

obvious that we must capitalize on those unique assets we enjoy in Tulsa and which can't be easily replicated elsewhere. To me, the two clear ones are Downtown Tulsa (which represents hundreds of millions of dollars in infrastructure built over a century) and the Arkansas River (there's only one of those). We've done a good job in the last decade of turning Downtown Tulsa into a destination location where people from around the United States gather to attend concerts, tour museums, and spend taxable dollars. The Arkansas River remains - as it has for half a century - the glaring, blatant opportunity we have yet to capitalize on as a community. More on that in my next answer.

**Q: What do you see as Tulsa's most pressing infrastructure need and how would you propose resolving that need?**

A: I led the effort to assemble the Improve Our Tulsa capital improvements program, which will put more money into our street infrastructure than any program in the history of the city. In my time on the Council, we've invested more in our streets than the City did in the previous three decades combined. Getting our overall street quality up to an acceptable level remains the most pressing infrastructure need. The good news is that we are systematically addressing that need. The other outstanding infrastructure need we face is the construction of low water dams in the Arkansas River. The safety and economic development opportunities this would afford are clear: two entities are investing over \$700 million along the river simply in the hope that those dams will be built. Imagine the ensuing private investment if we built them! I am chairing a task force of City, County, Tribal and business leaders to develop a simple, comprehensive proposal for infrastructure on the Arkansas River.

**Paul Tay**

*No response from candidate. Candidate has withdrawn from race, but will still appear on the ballot.*

# STATE QUESTIONS

State Question 769 - Oklahoma Service in Government and Military Amendment

State Question 770 - The Oklahoma Homestead Exemption Transfer for Disabled Veterans Amendment

State Question 771 - The Oklahoma Homestead Exemption for Surviving Spouse of Military Personnel Amendment

## The League of Women Voters of Oklahoma neither opposes nor supports State Question 769, 770 or 771

### STATE QUESTION NO. 769 Legislative Referendum No. 364

#### ***Oklahoma Service in Government and Military Amendment***

The Oklahoma Service in Government and Military Amendment, known as State Question 769, if approved, is a constitutional amendment that would guarantee that certain Oklahoma government officials can also serve as officers and members of the National Guard, Officers Reserve Corps, Oklahoma State Guard or any other active militia or military force organized under state law.

The amendment would exempt officers and members of the forces mentioned from restrictions on serving in more than one paying public position. (1.0 1.1 1.2 1.3 Oklahoma Legislature, “Engrossed Senate Joint Resolution No. 33,” accessed April 25, 2014)

State Questions 769 will appear on the ballot as follows:

This measure amends Article 2, Section 12 of the Oklahoma Constitution. That Section currently imposes limits on an individual simultaneously holding certain government offices. The amendment would permit those serving in state offices of trust or profit to also hold certain military positions. Holders of an Oklahoma office of trust or profit who currently cannot simultaneously hold certain military positions, include:

- Legislators;
- State Judges;
- District Attorneys;
- Statewide elected officials, such as the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General and Treasurer;
- Members of State Boards, Agencies and Commissions, and
- Many County Officers.

The measure creates a state constitutional right permitting holders of Oklahoma offices of trust or profit to also serve and be called to active duty or active service in the following military positions:

1. An Officer or Enlisted Member of
  - The National Guard,
  - The National Guard Reserve,
  - The Oklahoma State Guard, or
  - Any other active militia or military force organized under State law;
2. An Officer of the Officers Reserve Corps of the United States; or
3. An Enlisted Member of the Organized Reserves of the United States.

The measure empowers the Legislature to enact laws to implement the amended Section.

SHALL THE PROPOSAL BE APPROVED?

FOR THE PROPOSAL — YES

AGAINST THE PROPOSAL — NO

Dual-office holding refers to the situation when one person holds two government offices or positions. The dual-office holding can be as the result of election, appointment or by volunteering. Dual-office holding is limited in order to avoid conflict of interest, to minimize the potential for inappropriate cross-influence and to provide checks and balances of power. However, dual-office holding is allowed under certain exceptional circumstances as codified in the Oklahoma State Statutes, Title 51, Chapter 1, Section 6.

The Oklahoma constitution contains language that addresses “dual-office holding” in Article 2, Section 12 which currently states:

No member of Congress from this State, or person holding any office of trust or profit under the laws of any other State, or of the United States, shall hold any office of trust or profit under the laws of this State.

State Question 769 calls for amending that section of the Oklahoma constitution to allow “offices of trust or profit” to also simultaneously serve and thus potentially be called to active duty or active services in military positions.

References to the effects of dual-office holding are also addressed in state ethics commission rules.

#### Proponents Say

- The exemptions listed are for military services with the expectation that it is a limited commitment. The cap would free up more home and farm budget dollars for other expenses.
- The Question is designed to address a specific situation and though overly broad, the constitution is also overly broad.
- If State Question 769 is defeated, it will become very difficult for fine young men and women serving in the military to enter civilian public service. The military often imposes a period of reserve duty on men and women who are leaving full-time service. Our veterans already have great difficulty finding meaningful civilian work, and the lack of this exemption could make the public sector off-limits to them for several years.

#### Opponents Say

- If passed State Question 769 could result in conflicts of interest between two office positions being held by the same person.
- State Question 769, if passed, could result in the compromise of the separation of powers between the two offices/positions.
- An “empty chair” representation situation could result if, for example, a legislative representative who is a member of the National Guard is called up, his/her constituents would not be represented in his absence.

## STATE QUESTION NO. 770 Legislative Referendum No. 365

### *The Oklahoma Homestead Exemption Transfer for Disabled Veterans Amendment*

This measure amends the Oklahoma Constitution. It amends Section 8E of Article 10. This section provides a homestead exemption to certain qualifying disabled veterans. It also provides a homestead exemption to the surviving spouse of qualifying disabled veterans. This measure would allow either the veteran or his or her surviving spouse to sell the homestead but acquire another homestead property in the same calendar year. The exemption would apply to the newly acquired homestead property to the same extent as the original exemption for the homestead property that was sold.

SHALL THE PROPOSAL BE APPROVED?

FOR THE PROPOSAL - YES

AGAINST THE PROPOSAL - NO

### *What is a homestead exemption and why are the exemptions important to homeowners?*

Homestead exemption laws typically have four primary features:

- They prevent the forced sale of a home to meet the demands of creditors (however, in most cases homestead exemptions do not apply to forced sales to satisfy mortgages, mechanics liens, or sales to pay property taxes);
- They provide the surviving spouse with shelter;
- They provide an exemption from property taxes which can be applied to a home.
- Allows a tax-exempt homeowner to vote on property tax increases to homeowners over the threshold via bond or millage requests. ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Homestead\\_exemption](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Homestead_exemption))

Only one primary residence of an individual is eligible for a homestead exemption. Ad Valorem or “at value” taxes are based on the value of the property. In Oklahoma, the county assessor places a value on property, sets the tax rate based on local laws and collects the taxes. State laws determine how the process works. Property taxes are used to pay for core government services including public schools, infrastructure and police and fire protection. (Source: Oklahoma Property Taxes: 2014 Taxpayers’ Rights, Remedies and Responsibilities, Taxpayer Education Series, TES-14)

Oklahoma is currently 47th in the nation in the amount of property taxes levied on property owners.

The measure amends Section 8E of Article X of the Constitution of Oklahoma: Section 8E.

A. Despite any provision to the contrary, beginning January 1, 2006, each head of household who has been honorably discharged from active service in any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States or Oklahoma National Guard and who has been certified by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or its successor to have a one hundred percent (100%) permanent disability sustained through military action or accident or resulting from disease contracted while in such active service or the surviving spouse of such head of household shall be entitled to claim an exemption for the full amount of the fair cash value of the homestead.

B. In order to be eligible for the exemption authorized by this section, the individual shall be required to prove residency within the State of Oklahoma and must have previously qualified for the homestead exemption authorized by law or be eligible for the homestead exemption pursuant to law.

C. If a homestead otherwise eligible for the exemption authorized by this section is transferred on or after January 1 of a calendar year, another homestead property acquired by the qualifying head of household or by the surviving spouse of such qualifying head of household shall be exempt to the same extent as the homestead property previously owned by such person or persons for the year during which the new homestead is acquired and, subject to the requirements of this section, for each year thereafter.

#### Proponents Say

- The incidence of disabled veterans and/or their spouses claiming the exemption would be relatively low making the potential impact on local revenue low.
- The measures would provide further benefits for 100% disabled veterans and their families thus improving their standard of living.
- The measures would serve to stabilize communities through home ownership.

#### Opponents Say

- The continual chipping away at taxes aggravates our state’s inability to adequately fund and provide core government functions.
- If approved the burden of taxation would shift to non-veteran property owners.
- Small counties may be more adversely affected than larger ones who are better able to absorb the tax loss.
- There is no good way to replace this tax

## STATE QUESTION NO. 771 Legislative Referendum No. 366

### *The Oklahoma Homestead Exemption for Surviving Spouse of Military Personnel Amendment*

This measure amends the Oklahoma Constitution. It would add a new Section 8F to Article 10. It would create a homestead

It would create a homestead exemption for the surviving spouse of military personnel who die in the line of duty. The United States Department of Defense or the applicable branch of the United States military would make the determination regarding whether the person engaged in military service died while in the line of duty. It would provide the surviving spouse of such person with a one hundred percent (100%) exemption for the fair cash value of the homestead until the surviving spouse remarried. This measure would allow the surviving spouse to sell the homestead, but acquire another homestead property in the same calendar year. The exemption would apply to the newly acquired homestead property to the same extent as the original exemption for the homestead property that was sold. The exemption would apply beginning in calendar year 2015. The exemption would also apply for the 2014 calendar year if the surviving spouse meets applicable requirements.

SHALL THE PROPOSAL BE APPROVED?

FOR THE PROPOSAL - YES

AGAINST THE PROPOSAL - NO

### *What is a homestead exemption and why are the exemptions important to homeowners?*

Homestead exemption laws typically have four primary features:

- They prevent the forced sale of a home to meet the demands of creditors (however, in most cases homestead exemptions do not apply to forced sales to satisfy mortgages, mechanics liens, or sales to pay property taxes);
- They provide the surviving spouse with shelter;
- They provide an exemption from property taxes which can be applied to a home.
- Allows a tax-exempt homeowner to vote on property tax increases to homeowners over the threshold via bond or millage requests. ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Homestead\\_exemption](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Homestead_exemption))

Only one primary residence of an individual is eligible for a homestead exemption. Ad Valorem or “at value” taxes are based on the value of the property. In Oklahoma, the county assessor places a value on property, set the tax rate based on local laws and collect the taxes. State laws determine how the process works. Property taxes are used to pay for core government services including public schools, infrastructure and police and fire protection. (Source: Oklahoma Property Taxes: 2014 Taxpayers’ Rights, Remedies and Responsibilities, Taxpayer Education Series, TES-14)

Oklahoma is currently 47th in the nation in the amount of property taxes levied on property owners.

The measure adds a Section 8F of Article X to the Constitution of Oklahoma:

Section 8F.

A. Despite any provision to the contrary, and except as otherwise provided by subsection D of this section, beginning January 1, 2015, the surviving spouse of the head of

household who is determined by the United States Department of Defense or any branch of the United States military to have died while in the line of duty shall be entitled to claim an exemption for the full amount of the fair cash value of the homestead until such surviving spouse remarries.

B. In order to be eligible for the exemption authorized by this section, the surviving spouse shall be required to prove residency within the State of Oklahoma and must have previously qualified for the homestead exemption authorized by law or be eligible for the homestead exemption pursuant to law.

C. If a homestead otherwise eligible for the exemption authorized by this section is transferred on or after January 1 of a calendar year, another homestead property acquired by the surviving spouse shall be exempt to the same extent as the homestead property previously owned by such person for the year during which the new homestead is acquired and, subject to the requirements of this section, for each year thereafter.

D. The provisions of this section shall be applicable for the 2014 calendar year with respect to an existing homestead property owned by the surviving spouse of a person previously determined to have died while in the line of duty by the United States Department of Defense or applicable branch of the United States military.

D. The provisions of this section shall be applicable for the 2014 calendar year with respect to an existing homestead property owned by the surviving spouse of a person previously determined to have died while in the line of duty by the United States Department of Defense or applicable branch of the United States military.

#### Proponents Say

- The incidence of disabled veterans and/or their spouses claiming the exemption would be relatively low making the potential impact on local revenue low.
- The measures would provide further benefits for 100% disabled veterans and their families thus improving their standard of living.
- The measures would serve to stabilize communities through home ownership.

#### Opponents Say

- The continual chipping away at taxes aggravates our state’s inability to adequately fund and therefore, provide core government functions.
- If approved the burden of taxation would shift to non-veteran property owners.
- Small counties may be more adversely affected than larger ones who are better able to absorb the tax loss.
- There is no good way to replace this tax

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