

THE THIRD BRANCH



Stuart Ostler, Oklahoma Capitol Photographer

THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA 2017



“The courts of justice of the State shall be open to every person, and speedy and certain remedy afforded for every wrong and for every injury to person, property, or reputation; and right and justice shall be administered without sale, denial, delay, or prejudice.”

Okla. Const. art. 2, §6

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OKLAHOMA ART IN PUBLIC PLACES AND THE VETERANS' MEMORIAL

Art in Public Places, the brainchild of Betty Price, provided funding for the art used in the public spaces of the Oklahoma Judicial Center. One-third of this funding was used to restore the Oklahoma Veteran's Memorial. The Memorial was constructed as a place to honor the Oklahomans who gave their lives to defend our Constitution and our country. Because their daily work is to uphold the Constitutions of the United States and of Oklahoma, the Supreme Court determined that there was no better use for these public monies than to honor those who gave their lives to preserve our liberties.

The memorial sculpture was originally created in 1986 by Jay O'Melia and Bill Sowell. It bears a plaque listing the names of the Oklahomans awarded the Medal of Honor:

Joseph L. Epps	Herman C. Wallace
George P. Hays	Jack L. Treadwell
Samuel M. Sampler	John R. Crews
Harold L. Turner	John N. Reese
John L. Smith	Albert E. Schawb
Ken D. Bailey	Richard M. McCool
Ernest Childers	Harold G. Kiner
Jack C. Montgomery	William R. Shockley
Troy A. McGill	Fred F. Henry
Henry Schauer	Tony K. Burris
Leon R. Vance	Larry S. Pierce
Roy W. Harmon	Riley L. Pitts
Ernest E. Evans	(Amos Chapman not included on plaque)
Don J. Gott	(Ruben Rivers officially recognized in 1997)
Charles F. Carey	
Manuel Perez, Jr.	

It is surrounded by four walls representing the wars fought by Oklahoma soldiers and listing the names of the Oklahomans killed in action during that war.



Neil Chapman, Photographer



Stuart Ostler, Oklahoma Capitol Photographer

OKLAHOMA SUPREME COURT HALLWAY



Neil Chapman, Photographer

OKLAHOMA SUPREME COURT COURTROOM

THE SUPREME COURT

The Courtroom, a beautiful room housed in the State Capitol, belongs to the people of Oklahoma, as do all courtrooms in the State. All sessions conducted in the Courtroom are open to the public. Citizens are welcome, and they are urged to attend these sessions. Along the walls of the Courtroom are the portraits of the first five Supreme Court Justices: R.L. Williams, Matthew Kane, Jesse J. Dunn, John B. Turner, and Samuel W. Hayes. The pictures of the current members of the Court are placed on the walls immediately outside the Courtroom doors. Pursuant to the Oklahoma Constitution, the first five Justices initially presided over all civil and criminal cases, but as the population began to grow and the court docket lengthened, it became clear that a five-judge court would not be able to handle all the cases. Four other Justices were appointed in 1917. In 1918, the Court of Criminal Appeals was statutorily created and three judges were appointed to preside over all criminal matters. Since June 30, 1987, the Court of Criminal Appeals has consisted of five judges.

Solid mahogany found throughout the room was imported from the West Indies in 1918. Four large pillars of Vermont marble, weighing two tons each, support the ceiling. The ceiling is one of the most striking aspects of the Courtroom. The ten solid brass light fixtures illuminating the Courtroom were designed in New York City in 1970. Vermont marble beneath the ceiling at the north and south ends of the Courtroom bears the following inscriptions respectively: “The safety of the State is the highest law”—Justinian and “The foundations of justice are that no man shall suffer wrong”—Cicero.

In the summer of 2011, the Oklahoma Supreme Court, the Court of Criminal Appeals, the Administrative Office of the Courts, and the Oklahoma Courts Management Information Systems moved into the newly opened Oklahoma Judicial Center. This building, a portion of which is new construction and a portion of which consists of restoration of the Oklahoma Historical Society building built in 1929, now serves as one collective space for the administration of the Oklahoma Courts. The building was built with Georgia granite and limestone from Oolitic, Indiana, the same limestone which is found on the Empire State Building in New York, and the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. It is located directly south and east of the State Capitol Building. Justice Yvonne Kauger, Oklahoma Judicial Center Building Committee Chair, has overseen and shepherded the renovation of the building. In 2017, a photo of a the Supreme Court Building beginning construction was discovered by Stuart Ostler, Oklahoma Capitol Photographer. It is pictured on the cover of this brochure, in the background and to the right of the west end of the Capitol Building.

Although the new building hosts a Hearing Room, the Supreme Court pursuant to 73 O.S. 2011 §15.1 maintains control of the State Capitol Conference Room and Courtroom for judicial court sessions and ceremonies. The Court of Criminal Appeals has replicated its former Courtroom which was located in the State Capitol in the Oklahoma Judicial Center.



OKLAHOMA SUPREME COURT HEARING ROOM



COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS

THE COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS

Unlike most states, Oklahoma has two courts of last resort. The Supreme Court determines all issues of a civil nature, and the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals decides all criminal matters. Members of these courts and of the Court of Civil Appeals are appointed by the Governor from a list of three names submitted by the Oklahoma Judicial Nominating Commission.

In making its decision, the Oklahoma Supreme Court interprets both the State and Federal Constitutions. If the question presented is one purely of state law, the Oklahoma Supreme Court is the final arbiter. An opinion of the Oklahoma Supreme Court, based on the Oklahoma Constitution, affording greater rights than those preserved by the United States Constitution may not be overturned by the United States Supreme Court.

Criminal cases fall within the exclusive appellate jurisdiction of the Court of Criminal Appeals. Pursuant to art. 7 § 4, if a conflict arises over the jurisdiction of the two courts—Supreme Court or Court of Criminal Appeals—the Supreme Court determines which court has jurisdiction. Its determination is final and not subject to review.

Pictured are Chief Justice Douglas Combs of the Oklahoma Supreme Court and Chief Judge Gary Lumpkin of the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals.



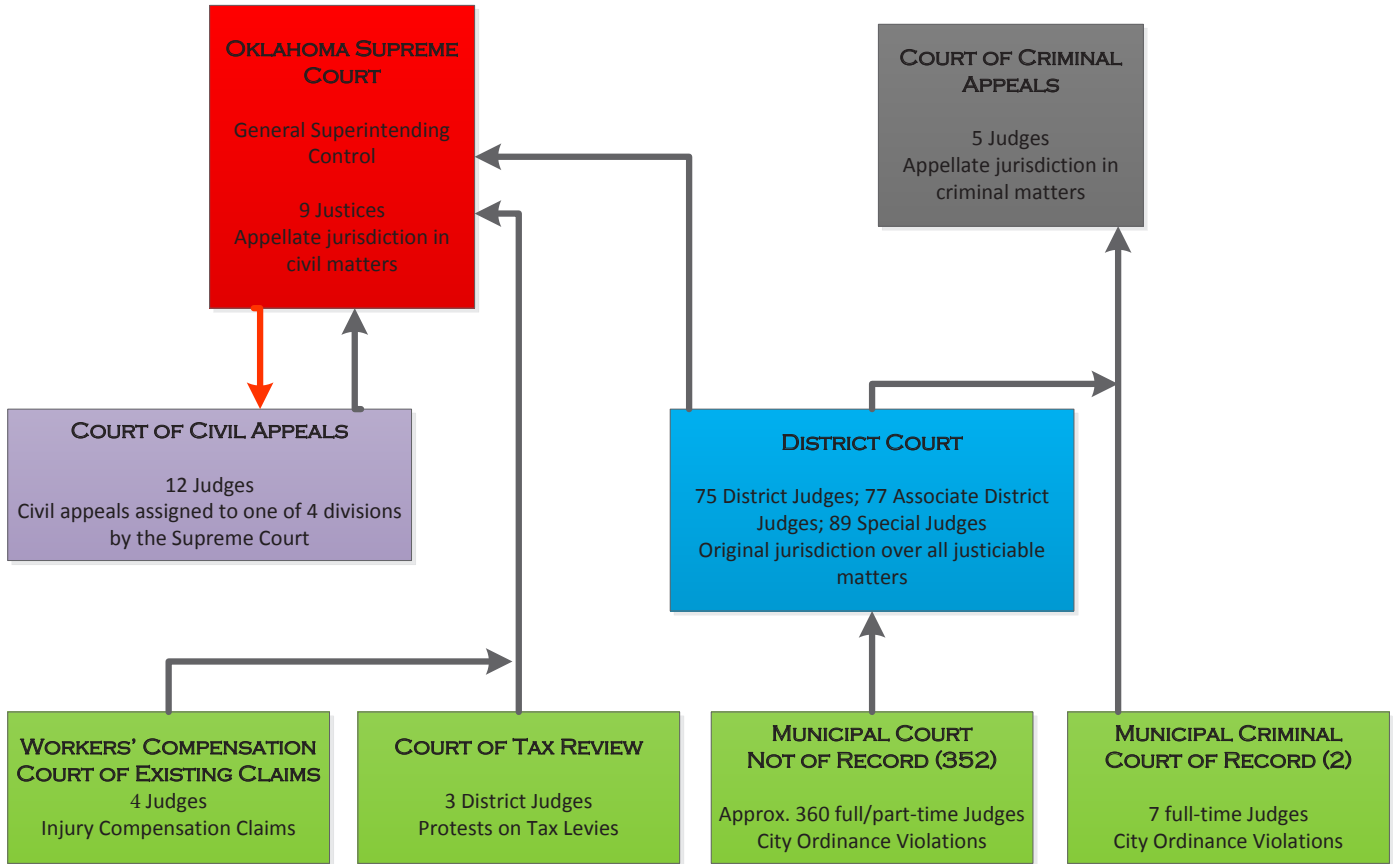
THE COURT OF CIVIL APPEALS

The Court of Civil Appeals is responsible for the majority of appellate decisions. These opinions may be released for publication either by the Court of Civil Appeals or by the Supreme Court. When an opinion is released for publication by the Supreme Court, it has precedential value. The Court of Civil Appeals is comprised of four divisions, each composed of three Judges. Divisions I and III of the Court of Civil Appeals are located in Oklahoma City at the Denver Davison Building, and Divisions II and IV are housed in Tulsa at the Kerr-Edmondson Building.



Back row (left to right): Judge Brian Goree, Judge John Fischer, Judge Jane Wiseman, Judge E. Bay Mitchell, Judge Robert Bell, Judge Deborah B. Barnes, and Judge Barbara Swinton
Front row (left to right): Judge Jerry L. Goodman, Vice Chief Judge Thomas Thornbrugh, Chief Judge Kenneth L. Buettner, Judge Keith Rapp and Judge Larry E. Joplin

THE OKLAHOMA JUDICIAL SYSTEM



Courts of Last Resort

Courts of General Jurisdiction

Intermediate Appellate Court

Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

→ Indicates route of appeal

→ Indicates assignment of cases

BRINGING A CASE BEFORE THE APPELLATE COURTS

In Oklahoma, all litigants are entitled to an appeal as a matter of right. Appeals to the Court of Criminal Appeals come directly from the District Court. All appeals in civil cases are made to the Oklahoma Supreme Court. Appeals may be made to the Supreme Court from the District Court, Workers' Compensation Court of Existing Claims, Court of Tax Review, and state agencies such as the Department of Public Safety, Oklahoma Tax Commission, Oklahoma Corporation Commission and the Department of Human Services. Many of these appeals are directed by the Supreme Court to one of the four divisions of the Court of Civil Appeals. Most cases reviewed in the Supreme Court are from the Court of Civil Appeals. These cases come before the Supreme Court on petitions for certiorari review.

Certiorari allows the Supreme Court to bring the record up from the Court of Civil Appeals and to review the Court of Civil Appeals' decision. A review of an opinion of the Court of Civil Appeals in the Supreme Court on writ of certiorari is a matter of sound judicial discretion, and will be granted only when there are special and important reasons—and if a majority of the Justices direct that certiorari be granted. Certiorari may be granted when the Court of Civil Appeals has decided a question of substance not previously determined by the Oklahoma Supreme Court or the United States Supreme Court, the Court of Civil Appeals' divisions have issued conflicting opinions, or when the Court of Civil Appeals' decision is a substantial departure from the usual course of judicial proceedings.

When new first impression issues, or important issues of law, or matters of great public interest are at stake, the Supreme Court may retain a case directly from the trial court. In addition to appeals from a trial, issues come to the Supreme Court within its general superintending control over all inferior courts, agencies, commissions and boards created by law, with the exception of the Court on the Judiciary and the Senate sitting as a Court of Impeachment.

DISPOSITION OF CASES PENDING BEFORE THE SUPREME COURT

The Supreme Court operates very differently from a trial court. There is no jury and, except on very rare occasions, no testimony from witnesses. The Court receives the record of the trial (transcript and any court papers filed in the case), and written arguments (briefs) of the lawyers. The Supreme Court has total discretion in deciding which cases it will hear. Cases which are not assigned to the Court of Civil Appeals for decision are assigned on a rotating basis to an individual Justice by the Chief Justice. If the Chief Justice is disqualified, the assignment is made by the Vice Chief Justice or by the senior justice in the majority. Cases coming to the Court from the Court of Civil Appeals on certiorari are assigned during Monday conferences, also on a rotating basis. The assigned Justice presents a petition for certiorari and makes a recommendation to the Court. The granting or denial of a petition for certiorari is discretionary. If a petition for certiorari is

granted, the case is assigned to a Justice to write an opinion.

Under art. 7, §5 of the Oklahoma Constitution, the concurrence of the majority of the Justices is necessary to decide any question. Because the Oklahoma Supreme Court is composed of nine members, an opinion must receive at least five votes. Other Justices may write dissenting opinions. Even if a Justice agrees with the result reached by the majority opinion, the Justice may author a concurring, concurring specially, concurring-in-result, or concurring-in-judgment opinion stating the reasons why the law as stated by the majority opinion is correct in the cause presented. If a Justice agrees with the law expressed in an opinion, the vote is to concur. If the Justice disagrees with the law as expressed or applied in an opinion, the vote is a dissent. Concurring and concurring specially votes are treated as a full concurrence and may be counted in obtaining a majority vote. Concurring in result and concurring in judgment votes may not be counted as votes to form a majority opinion.

An opinion issued by the Court is a product of many hours of in-depth, detailed study and research. These opinions and orders are handed down each Tuesday and appear on the Supreme Court website at www.oscn.net. Copies are mailed to the attorneys. Parties dissatisfied with the Court's opinion may file a petition for rehearing within 20 days, requesting the Court to take a second look at the law or the reasoning used in support of the result reached. Once an opinion has been issued, copies are available to the general public in the Office of the Court Clerk and online at www.oscn.net. After an opinion is adopted it becomes legal precedent, and guides lawyers, litigants, and judges in future cases.



Neil Chapman, Photographer

When an issue is particularly novel or of great importance, the Court may order the parties to appear for oral argument. Generally, each side will be given 30 minutes to present its case. This time may be divided between the original argument and rebuttal. Later, at a private conference, the Justices discuss the arguments presented, and the Justice originally assigned the case will author a proposed opinion. This proposed opinion, like all others, is considered by all nine Justices and voted upon in conference.



The Oklahoma Supreme Court sitting *en banc* on the floor of the House of the Oklahoma Legislature during Governor Mary Fallin's 2017 State-of-the-State address.

THE SUPREME COURT AND THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM

The historic and primary focus of the Supreme Court is to decide civil appellate cases. However, the Court has additional duties of equal importance. The Court, pursuant to art. 7, §4 of the Oklahoma Constitution, has administrative responsibility for the entire Oklahoma judicial system. The Court establishes the rules for all courts in Oklahoma. The Supreme Court is developing and implementing a statewide uniform case management system for the appellate and district courts of Oklahoma. Oklahoma has a unified bar. Membership in the Oklahoma Bar Association is required in order to practice law in Oklahoma. The Court sets the rules for admission to the bar and for the ethical practice of law; the Court administers appropriate discipline in cases of attorney misconduct. In recent years, the Supreme Court has been vested with further responsibilities by the legislature, including appeals of expungement orders, decisions of the Oklahoma Securities Commission, victim protective orders, original and exclusive jurisdiction over bond approvals and final orders on the nonpayment of child support.

The Oklahoma Supreme Court works closely with the federal judiciary. The Court is often called upon to answer federal certified questions pursuant to the Uniform Certification of Questions of Law Act, 20 O.S. 2011 §1601, et seq. Certified questions are issues raised in a federal case for which there is no Oklahoma law, and the Oklahoma Supreme Court is called upon to settle the issue.

Additionally, many of the Justices make personal appearances to speak to members of the Bar, civic clubs, and educational groups. These appearances are made in an attempt to help all citizens understand the Court's workings and to inform them of the decision-making process. The Justices often administer official oaths of office to public officials. Justices frequently give tours of the Oklahoma Judicial Center.



Oklahoma Bar Association Law Day Contest Winners

Pursuant to the Okla. Const., art. 7, §§1, 2, the Court selects from its members a Chief Justice and a Vice Chief Justice. The Court selects a new Chief Justice every two years. The Chief Justice, who is the first among equals, presides at all court sessions, and chairs the state judicial conference. The Okla. Const. art. 7, §5 vests general administrative authority over all courts in the state in the Supreme Court. The Chief Justice administers the judicial branch of state government in accordance with the rules of the Supreme Court and represents the Court and judicial system in public appearances. The Vice Chief Justice's term of office is coextensive with that of the Chief Justice.



Chief Justice Douglas Combs and
Vice Chief Justice Noma Gurich

DOUGLAS L. COMBS, DISTRICT No. 8



Erin McGregor, Oklahoma Capitol Photographer

Combs was born October 17, 1951 in Shawnee, Oklahoma. He is currently serving as Chief Justice for 2017 and 2018. He graduated from Shawnee High School in 1969. Combs attended St. Gregory's Junior College for one year on an athletic scholarship and transferred to the University of Oklahoma receiving his Bachelor's degree in Political Science in 1973. He received his Juris Doctorate degree from Oklahoma City University in 1976. While in law school, Combs worked as a Deputy Court Clerk for the Oklahoma Supreme Court. Following admission to the Oklahoma Bar Association in 1976, Combs served as an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Oklahoma under Attorney General Larry Derryberry. In 1977, he returned to his hometown, Shawnee, and entered private practice as an associate with the firm of Henry, West and Sill. Combs remained in private practice as an associate and then a partner in the firm of Henry, West, Sill, Combs and Henry until 1982, when he opened his own law office in Shawnee.

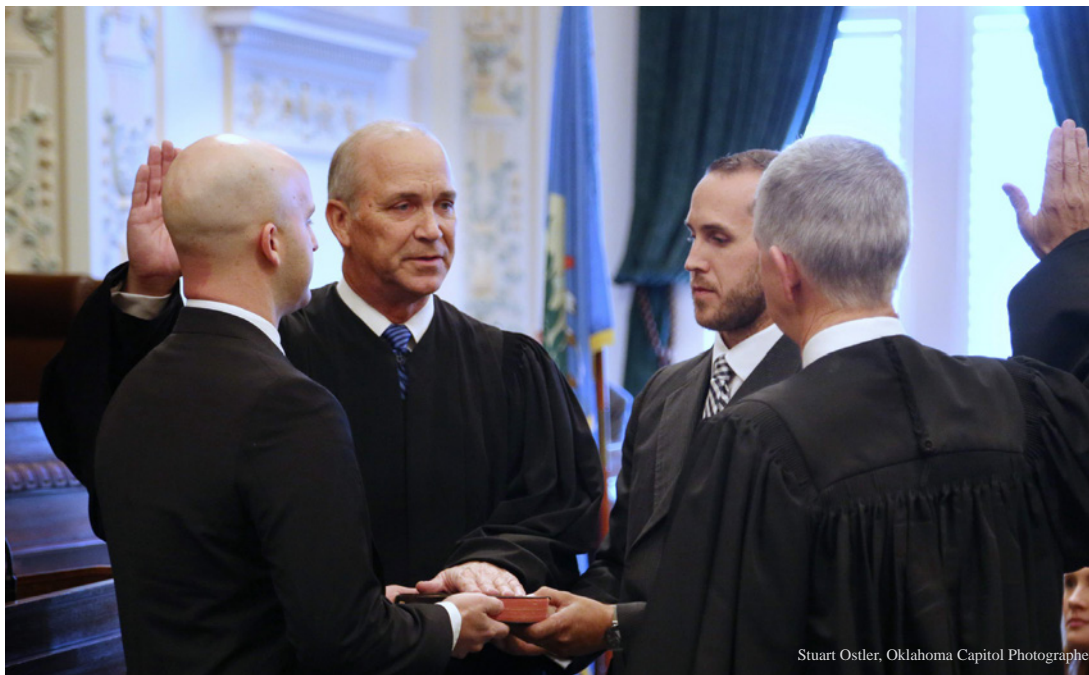
Combs began his judicial career in January 1995 as a Special Judge for the Twenty-third Judicial District, serving both Pottawatomie and Lincoln Counties. While a special judge, Combs was responsible for the establishment of the first Drug Court in the Twenty-third Judicial District. Combs presided over the Drug Court docket while a special judge, and subsequently as district judge until his appointment to the Supreme Court. He was first elected without opposition to District Judge in November 2002, and again without opposition in 2006. He served eight years as District Judge for the Twenty-third Judicial District.

Combs was appointed by Governor Brad Henry to serve as a Supreme Court Justice for District 8 on January 1, 2010. His appointment followed the retirement of Justice Rudolph Hargrave of Wewoka, Oklahoma. Justice Hargrave had served the State of Oklahoma as a Justice since 1974.

Justice Combs has been married to his wife, Janet for 42 years. She owned and operated a private dance studio, The Shawnee Academy of Ballet, in Shawnee for 34 years, prior to her retirement in 2010. The couple has two sons, both members of the Oklahoma Bar Association. Christopher Combs and Eric Combs are both associates with the Oklahoma City law firm, Foliart, Huff, Ottaway and Bottom. Justice Combs

is a member of the Muscogee Creek Nation. Justice Combs and Janet are members of St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Shawnee. Justice Combs' brother, Craig Combs is the Administrative Director of the Oklahoma Bar Association.

While a member of the judiciary, Combs has served as Presiding Judge for the North Central Judicial District and Chief Judge of the Twenty-third Judicial District. He has been active in the Oklahoma Judicial Conference, serving on the Executive Board as both a Special Judge and District Judge. He has served on the Legislative Committee for the Judicial Conference for more than 10 years. Combs served as President of the Judicial Conference in 2009. He currently serves as the Supreme Court liaison to the Judicial Conference Executive Board. He has been a member of the Oklahoma Court on the Judiciary, Appellate Division from 2011 to the present.



Pictured is Justice Douglas Combs being sworn in as Chief by Justice Steven Taylor. Chief Justice Combs is joined by his two sons who are both lawyers, Eric and Christopher Combs

YVONNE KAUGER, DISTRICT No. 4



Justice Yvonne Kauger is a fourth generation Oklahoman from Colony, Oklahoma, who was born in Cordell on August 3, 1937. She graduated from Colony High School in 1955 as class Valedictorian. Attending Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford, she finished her undergraduate degree in three years and graduated Magna Cum Laude in 1958. Within a year after graduation, she had completed her internship at St. Anthony's Hospital, as a certified Medical Technologist (MT.ASCP). She worked at Medical Arts Laboratory to put herself through Oklahoma City University School of Law night school. She graduated in 1969, 1st in her class. She worked as an Associate of the Law Firm of Rogers, Travis, and Jordon until 1972, when she became the first woman Judicial Assistant to her mentor, Oklahoma Supreme Court Justice Ralph B. Hodges. She held that position until she was appointed to the Oklahoma Supreme Court on March 14, 1984, by Governor George Nigh, two years after he had appointed the first woman to the Court, Justice Alma Bell Wilson. She was also adopted by the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma in 1984.

Justice Kauger, the Senior Justice of the Court, served as Chief Justice of the Oklahoma Supreme Court from January 1997 to December of 1998, and she is the only woman to have served as Vice Chief Justice and Chief Justice. Kauger has served as Presiding Judge for the Court on the Judiciary, and on the Law School and Bench and Bar Committees of the Oklahoma Bar Association. She currently serves as Liaison for the Court to the Bar Association. Her activities in law school, the Oklahoma Bar Association and the Oklahoma Judiciary include: New York University Appellate Judge's Seminar, numerous Continuing Legal Education Seminars conducted by the Oklahoma Bar Association, Member of the Oklahoma Bar Association Bench and Bar Committee, Presiding Judge Court on the Judiciary Appellate Division, American Bar Association Law School Accreditation Committee, Member of the Oklahoma and Washita County Bar Associations, Member of the State-Federal Judicial Counsel for the Western District, Member of the Dean's Advisory Committee of the Oklahoma City University School of Law, Iota Tau Tau Legal Society, and Organizing Judicial Day at Girl's State.

Her home was recognized as an Oklahoma Centennial Project. Kauger has received many awards including the Dean's award for graduating first in her class at Oklahoma City University School of Law, National Delta Zeta of the year for 1988, and Oklahoma City Pioneer Award for 1989. She was the featured speaker at the Twentieth William O. Douglas Lecture Series at Gonzaga University in November 1990.

She received an honorary doctorate from OCU in 1991. She has been named a distinguished alumnus by OCU and by Southwestern Oklahoma State University. On June 7, 1999, she was awarded the Herbert Harley Award for the effective administration of justice by the American Judicature Society. She is one of only four Oklahomans to have ever received the award and the only sitting judge. In November of 1999, she was honored by the Oklahoma Bar Association with the Judicial Excellence Award.

In March, 2001, Justice Kauger was inducted into the Oklahoma Women’s Hall of Fame. On April 6, 2004, she was named one of the 10 most notable women in Oklahoma City by the Oklahoma City Orchestra League. Kauger received the Oklahoma City University Alumni Association award for distinguished community service and professionalism. She was awarded the Byliner Award from the Oklahoma City Chapter of the Association for Women in Communications. She was a featured speaker for Esther Woman and a contributing writer to Jayne Jayroe’s book, *Devote 40 Days*, and an editor of the book *Art of the Oklahoma Judicial Center*.

She founded the Gallery of the Plains Indian in Colony and co-founded Red Earth. Justice Kauger is a member of the Episcopal Church and her hobbies include quilting, sculpting, Indian Art, and the Arts. She received the 2005 and 2012 Governor’s Art Award. In 2012, she received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Paseo Arts Association. Her daughter, Jonna Kauger Kirschner is a lawyer and British solicitor. She has two grandsons: Jay and Winston.



Pictured left to right is Chickasaw Governor Bill Anoatubby, Justice Sonia Sotomayor, Justice Kauger and her daughter, Jonna Kirschner



Pictured left to right is Justice Kauger’s grandson, Jay Scambler, her daughter Jonna Kirschner, and staff attorney, Kyle Shifflett



Pictured with Justice Kauger is her staff: Kyle Shifflett, Vanessa Traylor, and Julie Rorie



Pictured with Justice Kauger is her grandson Winston Scambler and her daughter Jonna Kirschner



JAMES R. WINCHESTER, DISTRICT No. 5



James R. Winchester was appointed as a member of the Supreme Court of Oklahoma by Governor Frank Keating in 2000. He served as Chief Justice of the Court from January 2007 to December 2008.

A native of Clinton, Oklahoma, he received his bachelors of arts from the University of Oklahoma and his juris doctorate from Oklahoma City University.

After graduating from law school, Winchester practiced law in Western Oklahoma before being named Associate District Judge for Caddo County in January 1983. In December 1983, at age 30, he became one of the youngest district judges in the state when he was appointed by Governor George Nigh as District Judge for the Sixth Judicial District of Oklahoma.

He was named Outstanding State Trial Court Judge and is a past President of the Oklahoma Judicial Conference.

For two years, Justice Winchester served as a U.S. Administrative Law Judge in Oklahoma City and New Orleans.

Justice Winchester is a graduate of Leadership Oklahoma and the recent recipient of the Boy Scouts of America Silver Beaver Award. He resides in Chickasha, Oklahoma with his wife, Susan Winchester, and their son, Davis.



Neil Chapman, Photographer

JAMES E. EDMONDSON, DISTRICT No. 7



Erin McGregor, Oklahoma Capitol Photographer

In Oklahoma's Eastern District, Edmondson served as Acting United States Attorney (1980-1981), and as Assistant U.S. Attorney (1978-1980). He also served as Muskogee County's Assistant District Attorney (1976-1978). Edmondson received his B.A. degree from Northeastern State University in Tahlequah in 1967. He served in the United States Navy (1967-1969) before attending Georgetown University Law School where he received his law degree in 1973. In 1983, he was appointed District Judge by Governor George Nigh. For the next twenty years, he regularly held court in Wagoner, Muskogee, Cherokee, Adair, and Sequoyah counties. James Edmondson alternated annually as Chief Judge of Muskogee County with District Judges Hardy Summers, Lyle Burris, and Mike Norman. He also served as Presiding Judge of the East Central Judicial Administrative District.

In 2003, he was appointed to the Oklahoma Supreme Court by Governor Brad Henry, succeeding Justice Summers upon his retirement. Retained on the court in 2006, he served as Chief Justice in 2009 and 2010; he was retained again in 2012.

He and his wife, Suzanne, have two grown children, Jimmy and Sarah, a granddaughter Essie, and a grandson, Jack.



Neil Chapman, Photographer

JOHN F. REIF, DISTRICT No. 1



Justice Reif served as Chief Justice of the Oklahoma Supreme Court for 2015 and 2016. Justice Reif was appointed to the Supreme Court in October 2007 by Governor Brad Henry. He was chosen to serve on the Oklahoma Court on the Judiciary, Appellate Division, from March 1, 2011 through March 1, 2013.

Prior to his service on the Supreme Court, Justice Reif served 23 years on the Court of Civil Appeals. He started his judicial service in February 1981 as a special district judge for the Fourteenth Judicial District in Tulsa County.

Justice Reif began his legal career in 1977 with the Tulsa County District Attorney's Office, where he worked in the civil division providing general legal services to the county. Before practicing law, he provided planning and grant assistance to law enforcement agencies in the Tulsa area through the Indian Nations Council of Governments from 1974 to 1977. Reif also served as a police officer for the City of Owasso from 1973 to 1975.

While on the bench, teaching has been Justice Reif's way of giving back to the community. He has made over 150 presentations for Oklahoma Bar Association sponsored CLEs and community education programs. In December 2010, the Oklahoma Bar Association awarded Justice Reif the Earl Sneed Award in recognition of his continuing legal education presentations over the past thirty years. In 1995, Reif was the recipient of the Distinguished Service Award from Oral Roberts University for his teaching at ORU.

From 1994 through 2001, Reif completed extensive judicial training provided by The National Judicial College, and joined the faculty of the National Tribal Judicial Center at the NJC in 2003. He presents classes in essential skills for both Appellate and Trial Court Tribal Judges at The National Judicial College. Justice Reif also is an active participant in The Sovereignty Symposium, annually presenting the ethics portion of the program.

Reif was born June 19, 1951, in Skiatook, Oklahoma. He attended high school at Cascia Hall, in Tulsa, Oklahoma, under a work study scholarship and graduated as Valedictorian of his Class of 1969. He attended the University of Tulsa, receiving his Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice in 1973, and his Juris Doctor from the College of Law in 1977. Reif was married for 35 years to Aylo (Brewer) Reif until her death in 2008.



Pictured is Chief Justice John Reif greeting the Emma Nicholson, the Baroness of Winterbourne, and member of the House of Lords

TOM COLBERT, DISTRICT No. 6



Erin McGregor, Oklahoma Capitol Photographer

Chief 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. He also served as an attorney for the Oklahoma Department of Human Services from 1988-89 and in 1999.

In March of 2000, Justice Colbert became the first African-American appointed to the Oklahoma Court of Civil Appeals. He was appointed by Governor Frank Keating. He served as Chief Judge of that Court in 2004. On October 7, 2004, Governor Brad Henry appointed Justice Colbert to the Supreme Court of Oklahoma. In January 2011, Justice Colbert was sworn in as the first African-American Vice Chief Justice of the Oklahoma Supreme Court. On January 1, 2013, Justice Colbert became the first African-American to be sworn in as Chief Justice of the Oklahoma Supreme Court. Justice Colbert is a member of the American Bar Association, the National Bar Association, the Oklahoma Bar Association, and the Tulsa County Bar Association. He participates in the Track & Field Masters Level, a mentoring program for young men, and a summer reading program for children, and is a frequent speaker at schools. Justice Colbert has been honored with many distinguished awards such as: Tulsa Community College Service Award (2004), Eastern Oklahoma State College Hall of Fame (2005), Thurgood Marshall Award of Excellence (2005), OU Black Alumni Society—Trailblazer Award (2005), Kentucky State University Athletic Hall of Fame (2006), Black Heritage Trailblazer Award (2006 and 2011), St. Louis Gateway Classic Sports Foundation—Lifetime Achievement Award (2009), NABCJ—Oklahoma Criminal Justice Hall of Fame (2012), HBCU Awards—

Male Alumnus of the Year (2013), Oklahoma Association of Community Colleges—Hall of Fame (2013), Oklahoma City/County Historical Society—Pathmaker Award (2013), the Urban League—Vilona P. Cutler Award (2013), and Ada Lois Sipuel Fisher Diversity Award (2013).



Neil Chapman, Photographer

NOMA D. GURICH, DISTRICT No. 3



Justice Noma Diane Gurich was born on September 26, 1952 in South Bend, Indiana. She is serving as the Vice Chief Justice for 2017-2018. Although she is a Hoosier by birth, she is a resident of Oklahoma by choice. Justice Gurich's great-grandparents settled near Gracemont, Oklahoma in 1904. Her grandmother and grandfather were married on December 24, 1906 in Anadarko. Her mother was born in Anadarko in 1921. She resided in Oklahoma until 1945, when she and her husband, a returning veteran of World War II, moved to Indiana.

Justice Gurich is a 1971 honors graduate of Penn High School in Mishawaka, Indiana. In 2012, she was honored as a Distinguished Alumni of her high school. She graduated Magna Cum Laude from Indiana State University, Terre Haute, Indiana in 1975 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and a minor in History. Justice Gurich is a life member of the Indiana State University Alumni Association. In October of 2012, she was honored as a Distinguished Alumni of Indiana State. In 1978, Justice Gurich received her Juris Doctorate degree from the College of Law of the University of Oklahoma. While at OU, she was an editor of the American Indian Law Review and received the Professional Responsibility Award. In 2016, OU College of Law inducted Justice Gurich into the Order of the Owl Hall of Fame.

Justice Noma D. Gurich has been a judge in the state of Oklahoma for over 29 years. Justice Gurich has the unique distinction of having been appointed to a judicial office by four (4) Governors of Oklahoma, after being nominated by the constitutionally created Judicial Nominating Commission.

She served for 10 years on the Oklahoma Workers' Compensation Court and 12 ½ years as a district judge before her appointment to the Supreme Court. She served as Presiding Judge on both courts. Justice Gurich was appointed to the Supreme Court, District 3 by Governor Brad Henry on January 7, 2011. She took office on February 15, 2011. She is only the third woman justice to serve on the Supreme Court of Oklahoma since statehood.

Prior to her judicial career, Justice Gurich practiced law in Oklahoma City for 10 years. Justice Gurich is a member of the American Bar Association, Oklahoma Bar Association, Oklahoma County Bar Association, life member of the Oklahoma Judicial Conference, a sustaining Fellow of the Oklahoma Bar Foundation, and a past member of the Oklahoma Trial Judges Association. She has served on the Supreme Court Committee on Revision of the Rules for Perfecting Civil Appeals, the Oklahoma Judicial Education and Training Board, and the Oklahoma Supreme Court's standing committee on the Uniform Civil Jury Instructions. Justice Gurich was awarded the 2002 Outstanding Committee Award for her work as 2002 Law Day Co-Chair for the Oklahoma County Bar. She received the 2003 Mona Salyer Lambird Spotlight Award from the OBA Women in Law Committee. She is a three time (2005, 2008 and 2011) Journal Record Honoree for Woman of the Year. In 2011, she was inducted into the Journal Record Woman of the Year Circle of Excellence. She received the 2013 Valuable Volunteer Award by the Foundation for OKC Public Schools.

In 2013, the Oklahoma City Chapter of the Association of Women in Communication honored Justice Gurich with a Byliner Award for Civic Leadership.

Justice Gurich is a volunteer for many community projects including the OKC Festival of the Arts, Kiwanis projects helping children in the community, advisor to the Southeast High School Key Club, and is an annual bell ringer for the Salvation Army. She serves annually on the Application Screening Committee for the Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics. Justice Gurich is an active member of St. Luke's United Methodist Church, where she has served in various leadership roles, including Chair of the Administrative Board, Chair of the Management Council and as Trustee. She is a monthly volunteer Mobile Meals driver and TV camera operator. Justice Gurich served on missions to Russia in 1993, 1997, 2000, 2002, and 2004, and to Alaska in 2016. Gurich is a member of the Salt and Light Leadership Training Class #8.

Justice Gurich is married to John E. Miley, General Counsel of the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission.



Pictured on the left are Attorney Renee DeMoss and Justice Noma Gurich at the Oklahoma Senior Follies



Pictured to the right are Justice Gurich, Jonna Kirschner, and Justice Kauger at the 2016 Sovereignty Symposium.

PATRICK WYRICK, DISTRICT No. 2



Patrick Wyrick was born on March 11, 1981, in Denison, Texas. Wyrick is a fourth-generation native of Atoka County, which is home to the family business, Wyrick Lumber Company. He graduated from Atoka High School in 1999, and attended the University of Oklahoma on a baseball scholarship. After graduating from the University of Oklahoma with a degree in sociology in 2004, Wyrick entered law school at the University of Oklahoma College of Law, where he graduated with distinction in 2007.

Wyrick began his legal career in Muskogee, Oklahoma, as a law clerk to Judge James Payne, Chief Judge of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Oklahoma. After his one-year clerkship ended, Wyrick joined the law firm of Gable Gotwals, where he practiced general civil litigation.

In 2011, Wyrick was named Oklahoma's first Solicitor General, and served in that position for six years under Oklahoma Attorney General E. Scott Pruitt. As Solicitor General, Wyrick was the chief appellate lawyer for the State of Oklahoma, supervising all appellate litigation on behalf of the Office of the Attorney General and directly handling appeals determined to be most significant to Oklahoma and to the development of federal and state jurisprudence. During his time as Solicitor General, Wyrick appeared in numerous high-profile cases in courts across the country, including before the U.S. Supreme Court.

On February 9, 2017, Governor Mary Fallin appointed Wyrick to the Oklahoma Supreme Court. Wyrick filled the seat left vacant by the retirement of Justice Steven Taylor, who had served as a Justice since 2004.

Wyrick and his wife, Jamie, were married in 2004. They have twin boys, Cole and Carter, and a daughter, Claire.



Pictured is Justice Wyrick's wife, Jamie, daughter, Claire, and twin sons Cole and Carter

Pictured below is the entire Wyrick family. Both pictures were taken at Justice Wyrick's swearing in reception in the Oklahoma Judicial Center Great Room



OKLAHOMA SUPREME COURT CHIEF JUSTICES

1907-1908	Robert L. Williams	1957-1958	Earl Welch
1909	Matthew J. Kane	1959-1960	Denver N. Davison
1910	Jesse J. Dunn	1961-1962	Ben T. Williams
1910	Thomas H. Owen	1963-1964	W. H. Blackbird
1911-1912	John B. Turner	1965-1966	Harry L. S. Haley
1913-1914	Samuel W. Hayes	1967-1968	Floyd L. Jackson
1914-1916	Matthew J. Kane	1969-1970	Pat Irwin
1917-1918	John F. Sharp	1971-1972	William A. Berry
1919	Thomas H. Owen	1973-1974	Denver N. Davison
1920	Robert W. Rainey	1975-1976	Ben T. Williams
1921-1922	John B. Harrison	1977-1978	Ralph B. Hodges
1923	John H. Pitchford	1979-1980	Robert E. Lavender
1924	John T. Johnson	1981-1982	Pat Irwin
	Neal E. McNeill	1983-1984	Don Barnes
1925	John T. Johnson	1985-1986	Robert D. Simms
1926	George M. Nicholson	1987-1988	John B. Doolin
1927-1928	Fred P. Branson	1989-1990	Rudolph Hargrave
1929-1930	Charles W. Mason	1991-1992	Marian P. Opala
1931-1932	E. F. Lester	1993-1994	Ralph B. Hodges
1933-1934	Fletcher Riley	1995-1996	Alma Bell Wilson
1935-1936	Edwin R. McNeill	1997-1998	Yvonne Kauger
1937-1938	Monroe Osborn	1999-2000	Hardy Summers
1939-1940	Wayne W. Bayless	2001-2002	Rudolph Hargrave
1941-1942	Earl Welch	2003-2004	Joseph M. Watt
1943-1944	N. S. Corn	2005-2006	Joseph M. Watt
1945-1946	Thomas L. Gibson	2007-2008	James R. Winchester
1947-1948	Thurman S. Hurst	2009-2010	James E. Edmondson
1949-1950	Denver N. Davison	2011-2012	Steven W. Taylor
1951-1952	Ben Arnold	2013-2014	Tom Colbert
1953-1954	Harry L. S. Halley	2015-2016	John Reif
1955-1956	N. B. Johnson	2017-2018	Douglas Combs



Pictured left to right are former Chief Justices: Yvonne Kauger, Joseph M. Watt, James R. Winchester, James E. Edmondson, Steven W. Taylor, Tom Colbert and John Reif

Justice Yvonne Kauger serves as the Senior Justice of the Court

ETHICS ADVISORY PANEL

The Judicial Ethics Advisory Panel serves as an entity to which questions concerning judicial ethics may be addressed. Requests may relate solely to prospective conduct which the petitioning party is concerned may violate the Code of Judicial Conduct. The panel issues advisory opinions which address only whether an intended future course of conduct is in violation of the Code. The Advisory Panel is staffed by five retired judges who have shown the highest of ethical standards, integrity, and wisdom through their service as members of the judiciary and as public servants. Currently, the members are Edward Cunningham, Bill Hetherington, April Sellers White, Tom Landrith, and Allen McCall.

Members of the Oklahoma judiciary and their staff are governed by very strict rules of ethical conduct called the Code of Judicial Conduct. Judicial officers are charged with maintaining the integrity and independence of the judiciary. No Justice or Judge may lend the prestige of the office to advance any private interest. They must refrain from participation in political activities. They may not hold offices in political organizations, make speeches for political organizations or candidates, or solicit funds for a political organization or make, directly or indirectly, contributions to political organizations or candidates. A Justice or Judge on a retention ballot may campaign only if there is active opponent opposition to retention.



Edward Cunningham



Bill Hetherington



April Sellers White



Tom Landrith



Allen McCall

CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

The Oklahoma Supreme Court is committed to Continuing Legal Education (CLE) for judges and lawyers. Making great use of the restored auditorium in the Oklahoma Judicial Center, the Court, in cooperation with the Oklahoma Bar Association, has implemented a free movie night for judges and lawyers to provide CLE credit. A law related movie is shown, followed by a scholarly discussion of legal issues relating to the movie which is led by one of the Justices or Judges.

The Court has implemented mandatory judicial education. Judges are required to obtain at least twelve (12) hours of judicial education per year. Judicial education is offered at various locations and at Judicial Conferences conducted by the Administrative Office of the Courts. The Administrative Office of the Courts administers the Oklahoma Court Improvement Program (CIP). CIP works to provide improved safety, permanence and well-being outcomes for Oklahoma's deprived children through efficient court practices and computer technology. The goals of CIP include allowing courts to address fundamental problems by improving legal and judicial training and developing and improving court data systems.



Chickasaw Composer Jarod Impichchaachaaha Tate performs an original composition in sung in the Creek language by a select group from the Canterbury Coral Society at the 2017 Sovereignty Symposium.

ACCESS TO JUSTICE COMMISSION

The Oklahoma Supreme Court created the Oklahoma Access to Justice Commission by order of then Chief Justice Tom Colbert on March 13, 2014. The creation of the commission was to develop and implement policy initiatives designed to expand access to and enhance the quality of justice in civil legal matters for low-income Oklahoma residents. The Commission is to serve as an umbrella organization for all efforts to expand access to justice in civil matters in Oklahoma. Nationally, Oklahoma joins approximately 38 other states with active Access to Justice Commissions.

Currently, M. David Riggs of the Tulsa law firm Riggs, Abney serves as chairman of the commission, currently comprised of 12 members; Attorney M. David Riggs, Chairman, Chief Justice Combs, President Howard G. Barnett, Jr., Oklahoma State University Tulsa, Attorney Lewis Berkowitz, District Judge Aletia Timmons, Associate District Judge Rick Bozarth, Director of the Lobeck-Taylor Family Advocacy Clinic Anna Carpenter, University of Tulsa, Attorney Tricia Everest, Michael Figgins of Legal Aid of Oklahoma, Neal A. McCaleb of the Chickasaw Nation, Attorney Ethan Shaner, and Former Speaker of The Oklahoma House of Representatives Kris Steele. The Commission also includes appointees of the President Pro-Tem of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives which are vacant.

SUPREME COURT LANGUAGE ACCESS

The Oklahoma Supreme Court and the State Board of Examiners of Certified Courtroom Interpreters officially launched the Court Interpreter Program in the spring of 2015. The purpose of this program is to help the public and the Oklahoma courts locate and provide qualified spoken-language interpreters, and to ensure equal access to justice for all individuals regardless of their ability to communicate in the spoken English language. What began with 18 newly-enrolled Registered Courtroom Interpreters now includes 38 speaking German, Mandarin Chinese, Persian Farsi, and Spanish. The Registry of Registered Courtroom Interpreters is available on the Courtroom Interpreter section of OSCN. A registered Courtroom Interpreter in Oklahoma is then eligible to take the oral examination to become a Certified Courtroom Interpreter. Certification as a court interpreter indicates the highest skill level and tests the interpreter in all three modes of court interpreting (consecutive, simultaneous, and sight translation). Currently, there are 8 Certified Interpreters listed on the Supreme Court's Registry of Certified Interpreters. There are also 22 Provisional Foreign Language Interpreters which also speak Arabic, and Vietnamese languages in addition to the other languages listed.

OKLAHOMA JUDICIAL NOMINATING COMMISSION

The Oklahoma Judicial Nominating Commission (JNC) was established in 1967, by an amendment to the Oklahoma Constitution. Prompted by the Oklahoma Supreme Court scandal of the early 1960's, the creation of the JNC was part of a nationwide reform movement, begun in Missouri in 1940, toward the merit selection, rather than the election, of some or all judges. The JNC, which went into operation in 1969, nominates candidates for appointment by the Governor to fill judicial vacancies.

The JNC has fifteen members who serve without compensation. Six of the members are lawyers, one elected by the members of the bar from each of the six congressional districts as they existed in 1967. The six lawyers are elected for six year terms, staggered at two year intervals.

Nine members are nonlawyers. Six are appointed by the Governor, one from each of the "old" congressional districts, to serve staggered six year terms. Of the six members named by the Governor, not more than three can belong to any one political party and none can have a lawyer from any state in their immediate family. The three remaining nonlawyer members serve a two year term as Members At-Large. One is appointed by the Senate President Pro Tempore, one is appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and one is selected by the other members of the Commission. Of the three At-Large members, not more than two can be from the same political party. The JNC annually elects one of its members to serve as chairman for a one year term.

The JNC was designed to be as free from partisan influence as possible. Besides limiting the number of lay members who may belong to any one political party, the Constitution provides that no Commissioner can hold any other public office by election or appointment or any official position in a political party. No Commissioner is eligible, while a member of the Commission and for five years thereafter, for nomination as a Judicial Officer. Nor may a Commissioner succeed himself or herself. The current members are:

Lay Members Appointed by the Governor: Ed Crocker, Lee Evans, D.B. Green, David Hudiburg, Gill Luton, and Steve Turnbo.

At-Large Elected by Commission: Dr. Jim Miller.

At-Large Appointed by Senate President Pro Tempore: Daryl Woodard

At-Large Appointed by Speaker of the House of Representatives: Ronny Eaves

Attorneys Elected by the Lawyers in their District: Melissa DeLacerda, Michael C. Mordy, Deborah Reheard, Peggy Stockwell, John H. Tucker, and Jim Webb .

BOARD OF JUDICIAL COMPENSATION

Judicial salaries are determined by the Board of Judicial Compensation which is codified in 20 O.S. 2011 §§ 20-3.1-3.4. Every odd numbered year, the Board meets to review the compensation paid to members of the state judiciary and, if necessary, recommend changes. It considers other states, the region, the value of services in the private sector, compensation of attorneys in the private and public sectors, compensation of other state, county, and municipal officials, and changes to the cost of living.

The Board is comprised of seven members from various fields such as labor and civic organizations, communications media, retail business, manufacturing and professional fields, and agriculture. No more than four members are allowed to be from the same political party. Two members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, two members by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, two members by the Governor, and one member by the Chief Justice of the Oklahoma Supreme Court. The current board is comprised of:

Appointed by Speaker of the House:

Ty Tyler
Doug Williams

Appointed by the Governor:

Brenda Barwick, Secretary
William W. "Bill" Frankfurt, III

Appointed by President Pro Tempore of the Senate:

Vacancy
David W. Pitts, Chairman

Appointed by the Chief Justice:

Dr. Donnie Nero

OKLAHOMA COUNCIL ON JUDICIAL COMPLAINTS

Although Justices and judges may be initially screened by the Judicial Nominating Commission, the Oklahoma Council on Judicial Complaints provides a formal process for removal in the event of misconduct. The Council receives and investigates allegations of judicial misconduct and when appropriate can recommend intervention or discipline by the Supreme Court or the removal or mandatory retirement of a judge by the Court on the Judiciary. The Council has jurisdiction to investigate the conduct of all persons subject to the Oklahoma Code of Judicial Conduct, including state, municipal and administrative judges. Members: Glen D. Huff, Chairman; Jerry Franklin, Vice-Chairman; and Cathy Christensen, Member. Staff: Eric Mitts, Director and Terry West, General Counsel. Complaint forms and instructions may be obtained from the Council at the address and phone numbers listed below: 1901 North Lincoln Boulevard, Oklahoma City, OK 73105; Office: (405) 522-4800; Toll Free in State: (877) 873-7468; Fax: (405) 522-4752.

THE SOVEREIGNTY SYMPOSIUM WWW.THESOVEREIGNTYSYMPOSIUM.COM

In addition to providing free CLE, the Supreme Court and The Sovereignty Symposium, Inc., sponsor The Sovereignty Symposium annually. This gathering is recognized as the premier conference in the country on Indian Law. The curriculum features comprehensive coverage of legal issues involving indigenous peoples. Lectures and open discussions leave attendees, as well as the bench and practicing bar, with a better understanding of the historical perspective and the contemporary legal issues facing tribal, state, and federal governments. The Sovereignty Symposium was established to provide a forum in which ideas concerning common legal issues could be exchanged in a scholarly, non-adversarial environment. The Supreme Court espouses no view on any of the issues, and the positions taken by the participants are not endorsed by the Court. The Ed Edmondson Scholarship ensures participation for those who wish to attend; the Chief Justice John B. Doolin Writing Competition awards a cash prize for the best student papers; the Susan J. Ferrell Scholarship is an all expense paid scholarship awarded on merit; and the Hargrave Prize recognizes the best faculty paper. The current Board is comprised of Allison Cave, President, Julie Rorie, Judge Aletia Timmons, David Dixon, and Selden Jones.



Left: The late Justice Rudolph Hargrave, Perennial Master of Ceremonies

Center: The Baroness Emma Nicholson of Winterbourne, Keynote Speaker



Stuart Ostler, Oklahoma Capitol Photographer

Right: Larry Echo Hawk and Ada Deer participating in a round table discussion.



Stuart Ostler, Oklahoma Capitol Photographer



Stuart Ostler, Oklahoma Capitol Photographer

THE SOVEREIGNTY SYMPOSIUM 2017 EVENT STAFF

pictured left to right. (Front Row): Tammy Reaves, Vanessa Traylor, Justice Yvonne Kauger, Kyle Shifflett, and Julie Rorie. (Second Row): Tanya Locke, Amber Luttrell, Vera Nushtaeva, Sonja Turner, Leslie Jones, Adam Southerland, Allison Pickens, Kady Billam, Kevin Cartwright, and Tripp Lopez. (Back Row): Michael Smith, Layne Dunn, Joseph French, James Lupton, Chip Minter, Jeremy Hall, Gerald Crabbe, Ryan McCarty, Doug Jones

THE SOVEREIGNTY SYMPOSIUM COLOR GUARDS



The Kiowa Black Leggings Society Honor Guard (*Ton-Kon-Gah*), was re-established in 1958 to honor veterans. Gus Palmer, with his brothers George and Dixon, revived the Kiowa military society tradition to honor their brother Lyndreth, who was killed in battle during WWII. The Black Leggings have presented the United States and Oklahoma flags at each Sovereignty Symposium, since in 1988.

Black Leggings regalia remains unchanged. A black string shawl is worn at the waist. Legs are covered with black paint or black leggings from the knees down, and a cape is draped over the shoulders. The cape is worn in honor of Gool-hay-ee, Palmer's great-grandfather, who killed a Mexican officer in battle and took his cape as a war trophy. The Black Leggings Society still has possession of the original cape. Members also carry a decorated lance or spear. The adornment is a personal statement of individual military experience. Gus Palmer had 21 eagle feathers on his lance, representing the 21 bombing missions he made during WWII. *Ton-Kon-Gah* members have served in every major United States conflict.

Dixon Palmer, a member of the Black Leggings for 52 years, was born in a tipi on his grandmother's allotment just west of Anadarko. He served with the 45th Infantry Division in WWII, logging 511 days in combat earning two Silver Stars, and three Bronze Stars.

He was a National Champion War Dancer who also gained world renown for his skill in making war bonnets, including those worn by the Black Leggings.

All original Black Leggings members have received the Sovereignty Symposium Honored One medal. Dixon was honored individually, and was the subject of Mike Larsen's 2009 poster.





Stuart Ostler, Oklahoma Capitol Photographer

Charles Chibitty was the last surviving Comanche Code Talker. He earned the World War II Victory Medal and the European Theater of Operations Victory Medal with five Bronze Stars, and the Chevalier de l'Ordre National du Mérite by the French Government. In 1999, he received the Knowlton Award from the Military Intelligence Corps Association, and in 2005, he was the Honored One for The Sovereignty Symposium. The Navajo Code Talkers were honored in 1993, and the Chickasaw Astronaut, Commander John Herrington, was recognized in 2006.

The Vietnam Era Color Guard honored The Symposium with its presence from 1989 - 2014. Pictured with Justice O'Connor are Walter Larney, Mark McKenzie, the late Jerry Riley, and Shawn Mark. Also pictured are former Chief Judge of the Tenth Circuit and President of Oklahoma City University, Robert Henry, and Julie Rorie, The Symposium coordinator. Pictured bottom left, John T. McIntosh, an original member of the Color Guard.



Stuart Ostler, Oklahoma Capitol Photographer



Stuart Ostler, Oklahoma Capitol Photographer

United States Supreme Court Associate Justice Sandra Day O'Connor (ret.) returned to The Sovereignty Symposium to speak for the third time in 2013. Since retiring from the Court, Justice O'Connor devotes her time to restoring civic lessons in the lives of school children throughout the United States, and to the promotion of an independent judiciary. In 2009, she founded iCivics to reverse Americans' declining civic knowledge and participation. Securing our democracy, she realized, requires teaching the next generation to understand and respect our system of governance. Embracing technology, iCivics has been instrumental in developing civics lessons through video and online games, making the information fun to learn. The nation's most comprehensive, standards-aligned civics curriculum is free on the Web at www.icivics.org.

In the fall of 2014, United States Supreme Court Associate Justice Sonia Sotomayor came to Oklahoma to meet, at her request, with Oklahoma Tribal Leaders at the Oklahoma Judicial Center. Her visit included stops at Oklahoma City University Law School, Tulsa University College of Law and the University of Oklahoma College of Law. An honorary luncheon provided by The Sovereignty Symposium was held in her honor and she personally met every person in attendance and addressed the group in a short luncheon program. Pictured below is Justice Sotomayor with the Oklahoma's Tribal Leaders in attendance.



Pictured left to right: Chairperson Gary Pratt, Chief Ron Sparkman, Chief Bill Follis, Chief Paula Pechonick, President Clifford Peacock, Associate Justice Sonia Sotomayor, Governor Edwina Butler-Wolfe, Chairman Wallace Coffey, Governor Bill Anoatubby, Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear, Governor Eddie Hamilton, Principla Chief George Tiger, President Terri Parton, Chief Tarpie Yargee, and Jim Collard

THE RALPH B. HODGES – ROBERT E. LAVENDER AWARD OF JUDICIAL EXCELLENCE

In 2012, the Oklahoma Supreme Court inaugurated the Ralph B. Hodges – Robert E. Lavender Award for Judicial Excellence. They were appointed to the Court in 1965 by Governor Henry Bellmon in the wake of the Oklahoma Supreme Court scandals of the 1960's. They restored the honor, dignity and credibility of the Oklahoma Supreme Court. Justice Hodges was the youngest man ever to serve on the Court. He was the recipient of the Media and Society Award given by the H.H. Herbert School of Journalism and Mass Communications for his efforts to allow cameras and microphones into Oklahoma courtrooms and he was named Appellate Justice of the year in 1976. Justice Lavender served on the Court for forty-two years, longer than any Justice. He was recognized as a distinguished alumnus of the University of Tulsa.



Left: The Ralph B. Hodges and Robert E. Lavender Award created by Patrick Riley

Top Right: The Sovereignty Symposium 2012
Derek [d.g. smalling] Smalling portrait of Justice Robert E. Lavender



The Awardees of the Ralph B. Hodges and Robert E. Lavender Award are:

- 2012 Court of Civil Appeals Judge Carol M. Hansen
- 2013 District Judge Donald Worthington
- 2014 Court of Criminal Appeals Judge Rita Strubar
- 2015 Court of Criminal Appeals Judge Charles Johnson.
- 2016 Court of Civil Appeals Judge Keith Rapp
- 2017 Supreme Court Justice Steven Taylor

IN CARRYING OUT ITS WORK, THE SUPREME COURT IS ASSISTED BY STAFF

Each Justice is authorized to hire two full-time lawyers and one administrative assistant. The clerical support staff is responsible for handling the individual Justice's calendars, preparing the dockets for Monday and Thursday Conferences, circulating proposed opinions and orders, and numerous other office duties. The Justice's Judicial Assistants are highly qualified career lawyers who aid the Justice in researching and drafting proposed opinions. Occasionally, legal interns assist the various chambers and receive law school credit for the semester.

In addition to the regular staff, a central staff also assists the Chief Justice. Central staff consists of a Court Marshal, four referees with two administrative assistants, and a Court receptionist. The Court Clerk is also part of this central staff, although the Clerk also serves the entire Court as well. Currently, one of the referees also acts as the Court's Marshal and is often called upon by lawyers to answer procedural questions. The Chief's office, through the assistance of staff acts as the Court's record-keeper for the number and kinds of cases that the Court handles each year, and drafts and issues orders as directed by the Court. The referees, all attorneys, evaluate hundreds of petitions for certiorari and they are called upon to conduct oral arguments and hearings which are not appropriate for hearing by the entire Court.



Supreme Court Administrative Assistants (left to right): Kelley Midgough, Vickie Campbell, Katie Craig, Jana Huff, Angela McAllister, and Lynne Kile

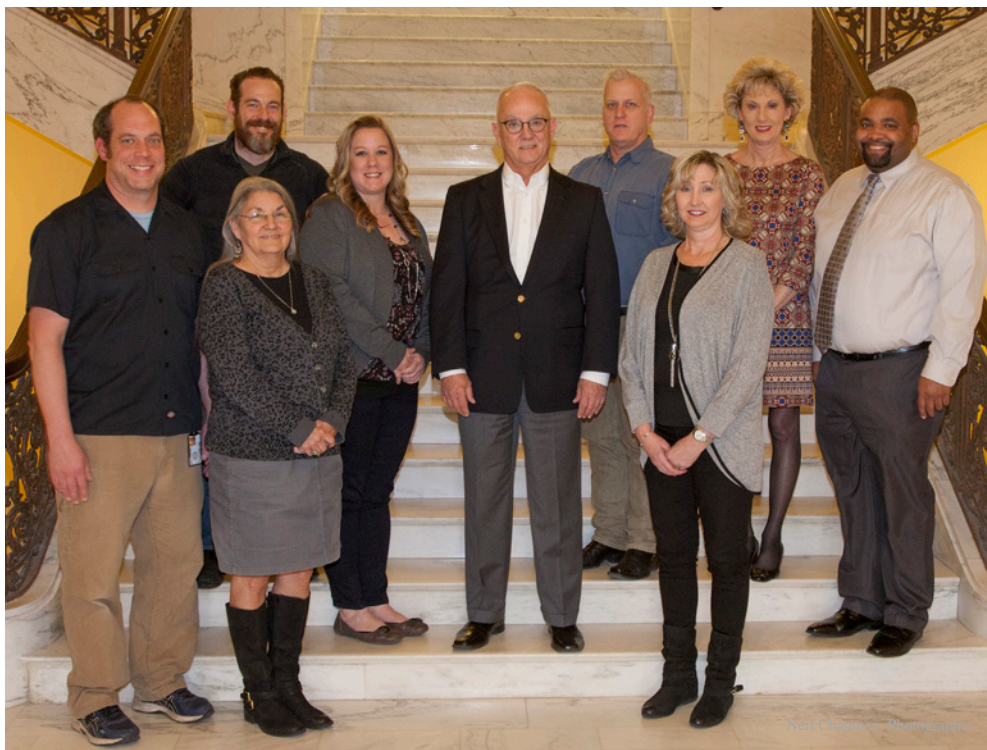
SUPREME COURT LAWYERS



Supreme Court Referees and Judicial Assistants Row 4 (left to right): Michael Elliott, Kyle Shifflett, Kate Dodoo, and Dallas Coplin
Row 3 (left to right): Barbara Swimley, John Holden, Jana Knott, and Jill Van Edmond
Row 2 (left to right): Daniel Karem, Marissa Lane, Selden Jones
Row 1 (left to right): Ann Hadrava, Paul White, Kyle Rogers and John Turner

THE CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT

Pursuant to the Okla. Const. art. 7, §5 “the Supreme Court appoints the Clerk of the Supreme Court who serves at the pleasure of the Supreme Court and who performs the duties mandated by law and by the rules of the Supreme Court.” The Clerk attends all sessions of the Court held in the Courtroom, calls the Court to session, maintains official hearing records, operates recording and timing equipment, and ensures that proper courtroom procedures are observed. The Clerk is the Court’s record-keeper. The Clerk maintains operational contact with the parties and attorneys for all cases. The Clerk’s office is the repository for all filings made in connection with any case. The Clerk also serves as the Clerk of the Court of Criminal Appeals, the Court of Civil Appeals, the Court of the Judiciary, and the Court of Tax Review.



Clerk of the Supreme Court and Staff (left to right): Tom Eberle, Glenda Burris, Patrick Eberle, Tara Strumbaugh, Michael Richie, Daniel Moore, LaDonna Johnson, Polly Engelbert, and Lloyd Williams
Not Pictured: Cynde Robertson

Micheal Richie retired at the end of July, 2017 and pictured on the right is the new Clerk, John Hadden.



In August of 2017,
Michael Richie
retired and John
Hadden became the
Clerk of the
Supreme Court

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

Pursuant to the Okla. Const. art. 7, §5, the Supreme Court appoints an administrative director and staff who serves at its pleasure to assist the Chief Justice in administrative duties and to assist the Judiciary.

The Administrative Director of the Courts and staff, under supervision of the Chief Justice and the Court, coordinate judicial operations and personnel throughout the state handling payroll, training, data systems, research and other responsibilities. Additionally, the Administrative Office of the Courts provides leadership and administrative support for the Judicial Nominating Commission, the Oklahoma Children's Court Improvement Program, Board of Certified Interpreters and the recently established Oklahoma Access to Justice Commission.

Jari Askins, a native of Duncan, Oklahoma, is the Administrative Director of the Courts. She has served the State in every branch of government and in many capacities including: Special Advisor to the Governor for the Oklahoma Department of Human Services, Executive Director of the Oklahoma Pardon and Parole Board, Associate Provost for External Relations at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, Lieutenant Governor, State Representative, Deputy General Counsel of the Office of the Governor, and Special Judge.



Pictured Above Jari Askins



Pictured Below (left to right)

Last Row: Michael Smith, Tim Brian Davis, Tim Scott

Middle Row 3: Dennis Leehan, Phil Johnson, Deborah Charles, Lauren Fagala, Marylin Anderson, Joseph French

First Row: Felice Hamilton, Kinsey Hicks, Lisa Baker

THE OKLAHOMA SUPREME COURT AND WWW.OSCN.NET

The Oklahoma Supreme Court established the “Oklahoma Supreme Court Network” (OSCN), an internet-based service designed to provide the public and the Bar with access to the public legal documents of the state of Oklahoma.

OSCN is now one of the largest freely available repositories of legal information on the Internet. OSCN is widely used as an information source. On average over 700,000 pages are viewed daily by users from all walks of life. In addition to the legal community, the media as well as business and private entities benefit from the information data provided by OSCN at no cost to the public. Thousands of published Oklahoma appellate cases are available on the web site, as well as the Oklahoma Statutes. Attorney General’s opinions, certiorari dispositions, court rules, forms, and many other types of documents are also included.

OSCN provides a fielded search system for all of the documents within its databases, similar to that offered by such vendors as Westlaw or Lexis. OSCN also provides a service entitled “The Citationizer” for tracking and checking citations to case law, similar to services provided by Shepard’s. Finally, OSCN provides same day new decision service for the Oklahoma Supreme Court and the Court of Criminal Appeals.

Oklahoma’s move to public domain citation and web publication of documents has generated a great deal of positive feedback, both from the Bar and the public at large. The Daily Oklahoman, Oklahoma City’s daily newspaper, ran an in-depth front page article on OSCN, and the Court’s actions have been covered by numerous publications, including Cnet.com, The National Law Journal, and The Journal Record. The Court has received the “Site Patrol” Award from Microsoft.com, “Best of the Net” Award from the Mining Co., and OSCN is listed as a “well done court site” at Courts.net. The address for OSCN is <http://www.oscn.net>.



Pictured (left to right) (back to front) Scott Jacofsky, Network Manager, James Lupton, Enterprise Architecture Manager, Frank Holdsclaw, Program Manager, Tim Luers, Project Management Manager, Joshua Butler, Technical Services Manager, Ms. Mike Siscoe, Information Systems Manager, Gary Carter, Deputy IT Director, Darrell Mason, Data System and Systems Administration Manager



MIS Director, Mike Kiss

The Management Information Services Department (MIS) operates as a department of the Administrative Office of the Courts. MIS is responsible for automation and data management for all appellate and district courts within the State of Oklahoma. The Department is also responsible for the implementation and operation of OSCN.



Pictured Front Row (left to right): Frank Holdsclaw, Tom Bonadio, Dajanae Berry, Arelis Pato, Dawn Helliker, Vera Nushtaeva, Pooja Tipi, Geral Crabbe
Second Row: Jeff Schutt, Susan Berry, Dee McInahan, Mike siscoe, James Lupton, Sri Puttheti
Third Row: Aaron DeLeon, Terry Ellis, Gary Carter, Randy Thompson, James Hixon, Sherry Jenkins, Amber Litrell, Layne Dunn
Fourth Row: Max Guevra, Christopher Zabawa, Kaleb Robertson, Scott Jacofsky, Josh Butler, Darrell Mason, Scott McClure, Russ Reagan, Tad Chapman, Steve Ingraham
Fifth Row: Rickie Kemnitz, Chris White, Preston Smith, Matt Cook, Brad Wynn
Last Row: Chord Spence, Joseph Varghese, Nick garde, James Olds, Timothy Luers

OKLAHOMA COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS



Left to Right: Presiding Judge Gary Lumpkin, Vice-Presiding Judge David B. Lewis, Judge Dana Kuehn, Judge Robert Hudson, and Judge Scott Rowland

DANA KUEHN, DISTRICT No. 1

Judge Dana Kuehn was appointed to the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals on October 2, 2017 by Governor Mary Fallin to fill the unexpired term of Judge Clancy Smith. A native of Tulsa, Oklahoma, she attended Oklahoma State University, receiving a Bachelors Degree in Political Science in 1993. Judge Kuehn was a top-ten graduate of the OSU College of Arts and Sciences and a member of Kappa Alpha Theta Sorority of which she served as President. She received her Juris Doctorate from the University of Tulsa College of Law in 1996. After graduating law school, Judge Kuehn was a felony prosecutor for almost ten years with the Tulsa County District Attorney's Office. As lead counsel, she tried more than 75 cases. She headed the Crimes Against Children Unit and also served as Chief of the Juvenile Division. She was an Associate with the firm of Steidley & Neal from 1999-2000.

In 2006, Judge Kuehn was elected Associate District Judge of Tulsa County. She presided over a felony docket and conducted more than 75 jury trials. In that capacity, she also worked closely with Women In Recovery for alternative sentencing options for women. Judge Kuehn then presided over a civil docket from 2008 to 2017 conducting more than 100 jury trials. Judge Kuehn served as Chief of the Civil Division at Tulsa County from 2010 through 2012. She teaches a Juvenile Law and Evidence Workshop at the University of Tulsa College of Law. She is past president of the Alumnae Board and was selected Outstanding Junior Alumnae. In May 2017, she was inducted into the Tulsa College of Law Hall of Fame and received the Thomas Coffman Community Service Award.

Judge Kuehn is an active member of the Tulsa County Bar Association and Oklahoma Bar Association. She is a recipient of the 2016 Mona Salyer Lambird Spotlight Award. In 2017, the American Board of Trial Advocates recognized her as Judge of the Year for the State of Oklahoma.

Judge Kuehn is a proud mother of four boys and wife of Patrick Kuehn. She is a Youth Deacon at her family's church, Kirk of the Hills Presbyterian. Her favorite past-times are volunteering for her children's school and sports teams, cheering on the Oklahoma State Cowboys, and reading history.



ROBERT L. HUDSON, DISTRICT No. 2

Robert L. Hudson was born in Guthrie, Oklahoma, and graduated from Guthrie High School in 1975. He graduated from Oklahoma State University in 1980 with a double major in Agricultural Economics and Accounting. He earned his Juris Doctorate from the University Of Oklahoma School Of Law in 1983. After graduating from law school, Judge Hudson was in the private practice of law in Guthrie, Oklahoma from 1983 to 1996. In April of 1996 he was appointed by then Governor Frank Keating as District Attorney for Payne and Logan Counties, a post he was re-elected to four consecutive terms. In 2011, Judge Hudson left the District Attorney's Office and accepted the position of First Assistant Attorney General in the Office of Attorney General. In November of 2012, he became Special Judge in the 9th Judicial District, where he served the citizens of Logan and Payne Counties for over two years before being appointed to the Court of Criminal Appeals by Governor Mary Fallin in April of 2015..



Among Judge Hudson's achievements, honors and awards, in 1980 he was named OSU's College of Agriculture's Most Outstanding Graduate and one of OSU's Top five Graduating Senior Men. While in law school, he was a member of the 1983 Regional Winning National Mock Trial Team. In 2000 and 2011, he was named the state's Outstanding District Attorney by the Oklahoma District Attorneys Association, and served two terms as President of the Oklahoma District Attorneys Association (2000 & 2008). Judge Hudson is a member of Leadership Oklahoma Class XVII. He served as a Commissioner for the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation for nearly ten years. Judge Hudson has been married for thirty-three years. His wife, Mary Hughes Hudson, of Bartlesville, is a school teacher. They have five adult children and numerous grandchildren. Judge Hudson also owns and operates a wheat and cow-calf operation in the Guthrie area. He is a Deacon in the First Southern Baptist Church of Guthrie.

GARY L. LUMPKIN, DISTRICT No. 3

Judge Gary L. Lumpkin was appointed to the Court on November 15, 1988. A native of Sentinel, Oklahoma, he graduated from Weatherford High School. Judge Lumpkin attended Northwestern State College and graduated from Southwestern State College in 1968 with a degree in Business Administration. He received his Juris Doctorate from the University of Oklahoma School of Law in 1974. He served in the United States Marine Corps from 1968-1971, serving 18 months in Vietnam. He retired in 1998 with the rank of Colonel in the Marine Corps Reserve. Judge Lumpkin worked as staff attorney for the Oklahoma Department of Consumer Affairs and Assistant District Attorney. He served as Associate District Judge and District Judge for the 20th Judicial District, Madill, 1982-1989. He is married and has one child.



Erin McGregor, Oklahoma Capitol Photographer



Neil Chapman, Photographer

SCOTT ROWLAND, DISTRICT No. 4



Judge Scott Rowland was appointed to the Court of Criminal Appeals, District No. 4, in November of 2017 by Governor Mary Fallin. He grew up in Wynnewood graduating from high school there in 1983, and then earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism/Political Science from the University of Oklahoma in 1987. After earning his Juris Doctorate cum laude from Oklahoma City University School of Law in 1994, Judge Rowland served as an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Oklahoma, General Counsel to the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs, and for eleven years as First Assistant District Attorney in the Oklahoma County District Attorney's Office.

He has lectured throughout the United States on various areas of criminal constitutional procedure, authored numerous articles on Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Amendment law, and has been an adjunct instructor of criminal and constitutional law at Oklahoma State University at Oklahoma City since 1998. He was inducted into the Oklahoma Law Enforcement Hall of Fame in 2016, named outstanding Adjunct Faculty at OSU-OKC in 2017, Outstanding Oklahoma Prosecutor for 2013 by the Oklahoma District Attorneys' Association, and State Prosecutor of the Year for 2001 and 2004 by the Association of Oklahoma Narcotic Enforcers. He and his wife, Shannon, live in Oklahoma City with their daughters Caroline and Emma.

DAVID B. LEWIS, DISTRICT No. 5

Judge David B. Lewis was born in Ardmore, Oklahoma. Governor Brad Henry appointed him as Judge on the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals on August 4, 2005. He served as Presiding Judge for 2013-2014 and currently serves as Vice Presiding Judge. Lewis earned a bachelor's degree with high honors from the University of Oklahoma in 1980 and earned his law degree from the University of Oklahoma College of Law in 1983. He served four years as a Comanche County prosecutor, after four years in private practice. Lewis served as Comanche County special judge from 1991 to 1999. He was a district judge for Comanche, Stephens, Jefferson and Cotton counties from 1999 to 2005. He formerly



Neil Chapman, Photographer

served as President of the Comanche County Bar Association. He has served as president of the Oklahoma Judicial Conference and is a fellow of the Oklahoma Bar Foundation. He is also a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation and a member of the American Bar Association. Lewis was selected as a member of the Class of 2008 Henry Toll Fellowship Program of the Council of State Governments. He was inducted into the Order of the Owl at the University of Oklahoma College of Law in 2017. Lewis serves on the Board of Visitors of the University of Oklahoma College of Law, and is co-chair of the Bench and Bar Committee of the Oklahoma Bar Association. Lewis also serves on the Board of Directors for Girls Scouts of Western Oklahoma, and served as chairman of Reach Out and Read Oklahoma. Lewis has two children – a son, David Jr., and a daughter, Danielle.



OKLAHOMA COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS STAFF



Back Row (left to right): David Bugg, Melanie Stucky, Patty Moore-Grotta, Jake Burks, Brant Elmore
Third Row (left to right): Donna Way, Patty Frakes, Bryan Dupler, Seth Branham, Pete Gelvin
Second Row (left to right): Suzanne Heggy, Caroline Mitchell, Gaylene Henley, Lee Cohlmiia, Allen Smith,
Tina Percival
First Row (left to right): Lendell Blosser, Molly Reid, Carla Odom, Elizabeth Bridgers, Lou Kohlman,
Cheryl Harris

OKLAHOMA COURT OF CIVIL APPEALS

OKLAHOMA CITY

DIVISION I



Erin McGregor, Oklahoma Capitol Photographer

Larry E. Joplin



Erin McGregor, Oklahoma Capitol Photographer

Kenneth L. Buettner
Chief Judge

DIVISION III



Travis Caperton, Oklahoma Capitol Photographer

Robert D. Bell



Erin McGregor, Oklahoma Capitol Photographer

E. Bay Mitchell, III



Erin McGregor, Oklahoma Capitol Photographer

Barbara Swinton



Brian Jack Goree

RETIRED JUDGES

Patricia D. MacGuigan	1983-1991	Joseph Young	1983-1985	James P. Garrett	1987-2001
Charles M. Wilson	1983-1985	Carol M. Hansen	1985-2011	Glenn D. Adams	1990-2009
Robert L. Bailey	1987-1994			William Heatherington	2009-2016

OKLAHOMA COURT OF CIVIL APPEALS

TULSA DIVISION II



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Deborah B. Barnes



Travis Caperton, Oklahoma Capitol Photographer

John F. Fischer



Erin McGregor, Oklahoma Capitol Photographer

Jane P. Wiseman

DIVISION IV



Travis Caperton, Oklahoma Capitol Photographer

P. Thomas Thornbrugh
Vice Chief Judge



Travis Caperton, Oklahoma Capitol Photographer

W. Keith Rapp



Travis Caperton, Capitol Photographer

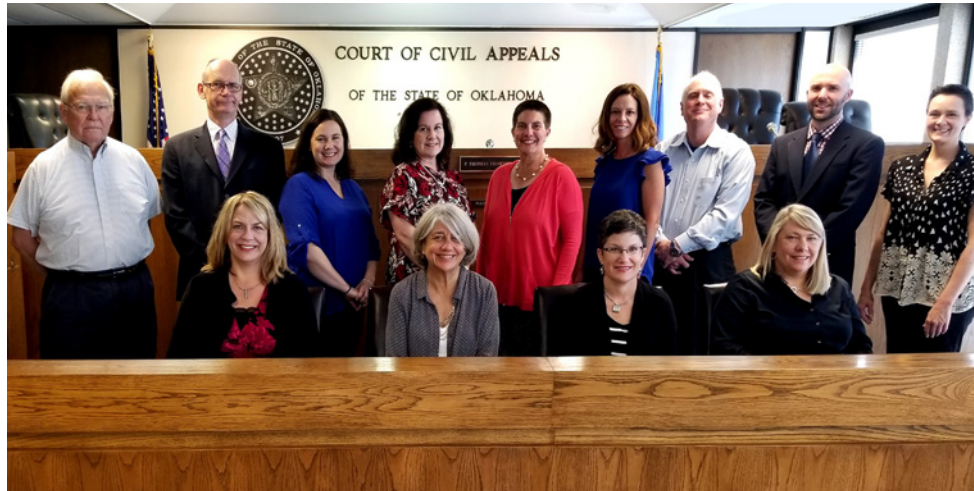
Jerry L. Goodman

RETIRED JUDGES

Kenneth D. Bacon 1971-1992
J. Douglas Gabbard, II 2005-2011
Wm C. Hetherington 2009-2016

Ronald J. Stubblefield 1983-2005
Joe C. Taylor 1993-2005

COURT OF CIVIL APPEALS STAFF



Tulsa Divisions II and IV Back Row (left to right): Tom Dalton, Martin Halstead, Tosha Sharpe, Cristina Romero, Sandra Jarvis, Lora Montross, Robert Cunningham, Michael Klenda, and Ashley Smith

Front Row (left to right): Rhonda Wallace, Emily duensing, Beth Reynolds, and Tammie Goodell

Not Pictured: Cathy Cullem, Judy Parks



Oklahoma City Divisions I and III Back Row (left to right): Christi Crowder, Lu Willis, Linda Ellason, Cher Patterson, Amanda Nixon, Donnie Lynn
Front Row (left to right): Susan Beaty, Debbie Clark, Shannon Panach, Kimberly Carlson, Bevan Graybill, Jennifer Lee, Merideth Wolfe, Chris Ruggiers

JUDGES OF THE DISTRICT COURT

The majority of the judiciary in Oklahoma is composed of Judges of the District Court. Often these Judges serve as the first contact a party may have with the judicial system. District Court Judges hear both civil and criminal matters, and they are the backbone of the judiciary. Appeals from the District Courts in civil matters are considered by the Oklahoma Supreme Court. Appeals in criminal matters from the District Courts are considered by the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals.

Nine Presiding Judges are elected by their peers to assist in the administration of Oklahoma's trial courts. These judges, representing separate geographic areas, meet monthly with members of the Supreme Court and Court of Criminal Appeals to discuss the administration of justice and any developments affecting Oklahoma's judiciary. These meetings provide an effective forum for exchanging information by and between the trial judges and appellate judges.

OKLAHOMA TRIAL COURT PRESIDING JUDGES



SOUTHEASTERN
Mark Campbell
District Judge
Bryan County



NORTH-CENTRAL
Phillip Ross
District Judge
Kay County



OKLAHOMA-CANADIAN
Timothy R. Henderson
District Judge
Oklahoma County



TULSA-PAWNEE
Rebecca Nightingale
District Judge
Tulsa County



NORTHWEST
Jon K. Parsley
District Judge
Texas County



SOUTHWESTERN
Gerald Neuwirth
District Judge
Comanche County



EAST-CENTRAL
Douglas Golden
District Judge
Creek County



NORTHEASTERN
Terry McBride
District Judge
Mayes County



SOUTH-CENTRAL
Steve Kessinger
District Judge
Ponotoc County

OKLAHOMA TRIAL COURT JUDGES - DISTRICT JUDGES



Kaitlyn G. Allen
District Judge
Oklahoma County
Juvenile Justice Center
(405) 713-6796



[Don Andrews](#)
District Judge
Oklahoma County
(405) 713-1171



[Thad Balkman](#)
District Judge
Cleveland County
(405) 329-2400



Anthony L. Bonner
District Judge
Oklahoma County
(405) 713-1133



[Mark Campbell](#)
District Judge
Bryan County
(580) 924-3450



[John G. Canavan](#)
District Judge
Pottawatomie County
(405) 275-1296



Daman H. Cantrell
District Judge
Tulsa County
(918) 596-5390



[Wallace Coppedge](#)
District Judge
Marshall County
(580) 795-3392



Phillip C. Corley
District Judge
Payne County
(405) 372-3624



Heather Coyle
District Judge
Oklahoma County
(405) 713-1107



C. Brent Dishman
District Judge
Oklahoma County
(405) 713-1451



[Douglas E. Drummond](#)
District Judge
Tulsa County
(918) 596-5300



[Leah Edwards](#)
District Judge
McClain County
(405) 527-6432



[Just in P. Eilers](#)
District Judge
Woodward County
(580) 256-6716



Kurt G. Glasco
District Judge
Tulsa County
(918) 596-5320



Douglas W. Golden
District Judge
Creek County
(918) 224-3445



Kevin Gray
District Judge
Tulsa Juvenile Center
(918) 596-5904



Kelly Greenough
District Judge
Tulsa County
(918) 596-5375



David Guten
District Judge
Tulsa County
(918) 596-8608



Kelly Hake
District Judge
Creek County
(918) 367-8979



Rafe Hall
District Judge
Jackson County



Rich Hathcoat
District Judge
Tulsa County
(918) 596-5334



[Paul Hesse](#)
District Judge
Canadian County
(405) 295-6203



Mike Hogan
District Judge
Pittsburg County
(918) 423-6866



[Sharon Holmes](#)
District Judge
Tulsa County
(918) 596-5200



Michelle Keely
District Judge
Tulsa County



[Steve Kessinger](#)
District Judge
Pontotoc County
(580) 332-8940



Timothy King
District Judge
Muskogee County
(918) 687-6388



[Kory Kirkland](#)
District Judge
Grady County
(405) 224-3737



[Douglas A Kirkley](#)
District Judge
Wagoner County
(918) 485-2144



K. Nikki Kirkpatrick
District Judge
Oklahoma County
(405) 713-7103



[William D. LaFortune](#)
District Judge
Tulsa County
(918) 596-5415



Natalie Mai
District Judge
Oklahoma County
(405) 713-1156



Emily Maxwell
District Judge
McCurain County



Jennifer McAffrey
District Judge
Ottawa County



[Lynne McGuire](#)
District Judge
Cleveland County
(405) 366-0639



Scott D. Meaders
District Judge
Comanche County
(580) 581-4598



Dawn Moody
District Judge
Tulsa County
(918) 596-5000



Dennis Morris
District Judge
Carter County
(580) 223-3803



[D. Clay Mowdy](#)
District Judge
Coal County
(580) 258-7714



Tom Newby
District Judge
Garfield County
(580) 237-0239



[Rebecca B. Nightingale](#)
District Judge
Tulsa County
(918) 596-5350



[Richard Ogden](#)
District Judge
Oklahoma County
(405) 713-1403



[Timothy L. Olsen](#)
District Judge
Seminole County
(405) 257-3386



Amy Palumbo
District Judge
Oklahoma County
(405) 713-1147



Lawrence W. Parish
District Judge
Okfuskee County
(918) 623-0725



[Jon Parsley](#)
District Judge
Texas County
(580) 338-3412



[J. Jeffrey Payton](#)
District Judge
Adair County
(918) 696-6269



[Stephen R. Pazzo](#)
District Judge
Rogers County
(918) 923-4967



Tracy Priddy
District Judge
Tulsa County
(918) 596-5340



[Pandee Ramirez](#)
District Judge
Okmulgee County
(918) 756-0672



[G. Brent Russell](#)
District Judge
Stephens County
(580) 470-2025



[Lara M. Russell](#)
District Judge
Rogers County
(918) 923-4963



[Kathryn Savage](#)
District Judge
Oklahoma County
(405) 713-1121



Grant Sheperd
District Judge
Comanche County



Bret Smith
District Judge
Muskogee County
(918) 687-1950



Susan Stallings
District Judge
Oklahoma County
(405) 713-1456



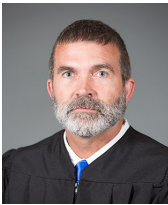
[Sheila Stinson](#)
District Judge
Oklahoma County
(405) 713-1436



Kenneth M. Stoner
District Judge
Oklahoma County
(405) 713-2352



Khristan K. Strubhar
District Judge
Canadian County
(405) 295-6208



Jon Sullivan
District Judge
LeFlore County
(918) 647-3350



Stuart Tate
District Judge
Osage County
(918) 287-4767



[Emmit Tayloe](#)
District Judge
Comanche County
(580) 581-4595



Shawn S. Taylor
District Judge
Mayes County
(918) 825-0960



Linda Thomas
District Judge
Washington County



[Aletia Haynes Timmons](#)
District Judge
Oklahoma County
(405) 713-7101



[Cindy H. Truong](#)
District Judge
Oklahoma County
(405) 713-1408



[Michael D. Tupper](#)
District Judge
Cleveland County
(405) 329-9788



[Lee Turner](#)
District Judge
Kay County
(580) 362-2151



[Jeff Virgin](#)
District Judge
Cleveland County
(405) 366-0600



Jay Walker
District Judge
Comanche County
(580) 581-4580



[Caroline Wall](#)
District Judge
Tulsa County
(918) 596-5310



[Jill Carpenter Weedon](#)
District Judge
Custer County
(580) 323-2230



[Paul K Woodward](#)
District Judge
Garfield County
(580) 237-5031

OKLAHOMA TRIAL COURT JUDGES - ASSOCIATE DISTRICT JUDGES



[Aric Alley](#)
Associate District Judge
Harper County
(580) 735-2222



Loren Angle
Associate District Judge
Alfalfa County
(580) 596-2224



[David R Bandy](#)
Associate District Judge
Kay County
(580) 362-2326



Bill Baze
Associate District Judge
Choctaw County
(580) 326-3384



[Brad L. Benson](#)
Associate District Judge
Tillman County
(580) 335-3710



Brendon Bridges
Associate District Judge
McIntosh County



[L. Elizabeth Brown](#)
Associate District Judge
Adair County
(918) 696-2356



Brett Butner
Associate District Judge
Seminole County



Abby M Cash
Associate District Judge
Beaver County
(580) 625-3231



Laura Corbin
Associate District Judge
Johnston County
(580) 371-2387



Jeff Crites
Associate District Judge
Grant County



Dave Crutchfield
Associate District Judge
Delaware County



[Donna L. Dirickson](#)
Associate District Judge
Custer County
(580) 323-3456



[Louis A. Duel](#)
Associate District Judge
Logan County
(405) 282-6114



Burl Estes
Associate District Judge
Osage County
(918) 287-3338



Laura Farris
Associate District Judge
Creek County
(918) 224-0911



[Michael C. Flanagan](#)
Associate District Judge
Cotton County
(580) 875-3137



[Marion D. Fry](#)
Associate District Judge
LeFlore County
(918) 647-3196



Joseph Gardner
Associate District Judge
Craig County
(918) 256-2577



S. Brooke Gatlin
Associate District Judge
Washita County
(580) 832-3226



[Dennis Gay](#)
Associate District Judge
Jefferson County
(580) 228-2180



Carl G. Gibson
Associate District Judge
Nowata County
(918) 273-0808



Rebecca J. Gore
Associate District Judge
Mayes County
(918) 825-6386



Charles Gray
Associate District Judge
McClain County
(405) 527-6651



Mickey Jay Hadwiger
Associate District Judge
Woods County
(580) 327-1596



Preston Harbuck
Associate District Judge
Atoka County
(580) 889-3400



Celso Harrel
Associate District Judge
Dewey County



Tim Haworth
Associate District Judge
Major County
(580) 227-4690



[Laurie E. Hays](#)
Associate District Judge
Ellis County
(580) 885-7601



[Brian Henderson](#)
Associate District Judge
Haskell County
(918) 967-2500



[Todd Hicks](#)
Associate District Judge
Love County
(580) 276-3373



S. Wyatt Hill
Associate District Judge
Caddo County
(405) 247-5585



Bob Hughey
Associate District Judge
Gary E. Miller Children's
Justice Center
(405) 264-5530



Ryan GHunnicut
Associate District Judge
Carter County



Rebecca Hunter
Associate District Judge
Wagoner County



[Lori L. Jackson](#)
Associate District Judge
Pontotoc County
(580) 332-8940



Clark Jett
Associate District Judge
Texas County
(580) 338-3833



[Gregory L. Johnson](#)
Associate District Judge
Marshall County
(580) 795-3392



Josh King
Associate District Judge
Cherokee County
(918) 456-0691



Sheila Kirk
Associate District Judge
Lincoln County
(405) 258-1254



Erin Kirksey
Associate District Judge
Woodward County



Michael Kulling
Associate District Judge
Payne County
(405) 372-3999



Allison Lafferty
Associate District Judge
Blaine County



Christine Marie Larson
Associate District Judge
Cimarron County
(580) 544-2471



[Nikki G Leach](#)
Associate District Judge
300 Drive #14
(580) 336-2433



Orvil Loge
Associate District Judge
Muskogee County
(918) 683-7786



[Brian N Lovell](#)
Associate District Judge
Garfield County
(580) 237-0236



[Rick Marsh](#)
Associate District Judge
Kiowa County
(580) 726-3594



Laura McClain
Associate District Judge
Garvin County
(405) 238-2542



Tracy McDaniel
Associate District Judge
Pottawatomie County



[Tim Mills](#)
Associate District Judge
Pittsburg County
(918) 423-6479



Margaret Nicholson
Associate District Judge
Latimer County
(918) 465-2071



Sue Nigh
Associate District Judge
Rogers County
(918) 923-4964



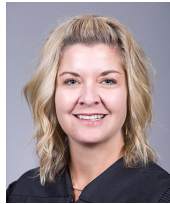
Patrick Pickerill
Associate District Judge
Pawnee County
(918) 762-2105



[Cindy Pickering](#)
Associate District Judge
Okmulgee County
(918) 756-1835



Tim T Ragland
Associate District Judge
McCurtain County
(580) 286-2171



Maxey Reilly
Associate District Judge
Okfuskee County
(918) 623-0900



Abby Rogers
Associate District Judge
Bryan County



[Michelle Kirby Roper](#)
Associate District Judge
Beckham County
(580) 928-9332



Lance Schneiter
Associate District Judge
Kingfisher County
(405) 375-3869



[Lisa Shaw](#)
Associate District Judge
Comanche County
(580) 581-4570



[Dennis N Shook](#)
Associate District Judge
Wagoner County
(918) 485-9599



Angela J Singleton
Associate District Judge
Oklahoma Juv. Justice
Ctr.
(405) 713-6790



Clifford J. Smith
Associate District Judge
Tulsa County
(918) 596-5044



Trisha D. Smith
Associate District Judge
Hughes County
(405) 379-3211



Bethany Stanley
Associate District Judge
Cleveland County
(405) 321-6251



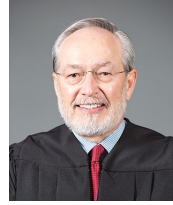
Joe Trail
Associate District Judge
Coal County
(580) 258-7714



Nicholas Tucker
Associate District Judge
Pushmataha County
(580) 298-2553



[Russell Vaclaw](#)
Associate District Judge
Washington County
(918) 337-2885



[F. Pat VerSteeg](#)
Associate District Judge
Roger Mills County
(580) 303-6057



W. Mike Warren
Associate District Judge
Harmon County
(580) 688-2553



[Kyle E. Waters](#)
Associate District Judge
Sequoyah County
(918) 775-4262



R. Matt Whalen
Associate District Judge
Ottawa County



Lawrence M. Wheeler
Associate District Judge
Stephens County
(580) 470-2015



[Eric G. Yarborough](#)
Associate District Judge
Greer County
(580) 782-4020



[Z. Joseph Young](#)
Associate District Judge
Grady County
(405) 224-5314

OKLAHOMA TRIAL COURT JUDGES - SPECIAL JUDGES



[Robin W. Adair](#)
Special Judge
Muskogee County
(918) 683-2997



Christopher Anderson
Special Judge
Seminole County



Kasey Baldwin
Special Judge
Tulsa County
(918) 596-5324



Mindy Beare
Special Judge
Pittsburg County
(918) 423-6651



Sara Murphy Bondurant
Special Judge
Oklahoma County
(405) 713-1421



Scott Brockman
Special Judge
Cleveland County
(405) 447-3737



[Carson M. Brooks](#)
Special Judge
Carter County
(580) 223-4750



Tammy Bruce
Special Judge
Tulsa Juvenile Center
(918) 596-5347



Catherine M. Burton
Special Judge
Oklahoma County
(405) 713-7105



Sharon Wigdor Byers
Special Judge
Oklahoma County
(405) 713-1113



David Cawthon
Special Judge
Pottawatomie County
(405) 273-0971



Todd Chesbro
Special Judge
Tulsa County
(918) 596-5380



Bridget Childers
Special Judge
Cleveland County
(405) 329-5733



Tamera Childers
Special Judge
Rogers County
(918) 923-4965



April Collins
Special Judge
Oklahoma County
(405) 713-1181



Kim Conyers
Special Judge
Alan J. Couch Center
(405) 360-9393



Terrell S Crosson
Special Judge
Rogers County
(918) 923-4966



Julie Doss
Special Judge
Tulsa Juvenile Center
(918) 596-5909



Theresa Dreiling
Special Judge
Tulsa Juvenile Center
(918) 596-8470



Melissa East
Special Judge
Tulsa County
(918) 596-4607



[Kyra K Franks](#)
Special Judge
Washington County
(918) 337-2880



Christine M Galbraith
Special Judge
Comanche County
(580) 581-4590



Charles Gass
Special Judge
Canadian County
(405) 295-6049



Blake A Gibson
Special Judge
Garfield County



Nichole M Gillett
Special Judge
Oklahoma Juv. Justice
Ctr.
(405) 713-6763



Jason Gidewell
Special Judge
Oklahoma County
(405) 713-1428



Mary Ann Godsby
Special Judge
Tulsa County
(918) 596-5314



Lydia Y. Green
Special Judge
Oklahoma Juvenile
Justice Center
(405) 713-6754



[Barry L Hafar](#)
Special Judge
Oklahoma County
(405) 713-1167



Nathaniel Hales
Special Judge
Cleveland County
(405) 321-5638



David H Halley
Special Judge
Canadian County
(405) 295-6221



Pamela B. Hammers
Special Judge
Creek County
(918) 224-3702



Lisa K. Hammond
Special Judge
Oklahoma County
(405) 713-1144



Michelle Harrington
Special Judge
Oklahoma County
(405) 713-7121



[Barbara Hatfield](#)
Special Judge
Canadian County
(405) 295-6211



Carrie Hixon
Special Judge
Stephens County
(580) 470-2020



Brooke Holman
Special Judge
Oklahoma County
(405) 713-1272



Travis Horton
Special Judge
Tulsa County
(918) 596-5374



Ryan R Howard
Special Judge
Jackson County



Perry Hudson
Special Judge
Oklahoma County
(405) 713-7109



Gary Huggins
Special Judge
Cherokee County



Stephanie Jones
Special Judge
Custer County



Elizabeth Kerr
Special Judge
Oklahoma County
(405) 713-1413



Melanie Lander
Special Judge
Rogers County
(918) 923-4968



Nicholas Lelecas
Special Judge
Delaware County



Regina Lowe
Special Judge
Grady County



[Deborah Ludi Leitch](#)
Special Judge
Tulsa County
(918) 596-5330



John Luton
Special Judge
Wagoner County
(918) 485-7938



[Jennifer H McBee](#)
Special Judge
LeFlore County
(918) 647-8206



Mark McCormick
Special Judge
Oklahoma Juvenile
Justice Center
(405) 713-6758



[Kevin C. McCray](#)
Special Judge
Oklahoma County
(405) 713-1185



Brian McLaughlin
Special Judge
Pittsburg County



Andrew Meloy
Special Judge
Ottawa County



[J. Anthony Miller](#)
Special Judge
Tulsa County
(918) 596-8750



[Trisha A Misak](#)
Special Judge
Garvin County
(405) 238-6561



Jennifer Selling
Montagna
Special Judge
Oklahoma County
(405) 713-1460



Jerry S. Moore
Special Judge
Cherokee County
(918) 456-8252



Charles Kevin Morrison
Special Judge
Tulsa Juvenile Center
(918) 596-5318



Emily Mueller
Special Judge
Pottawatomie County
(405) 273-0971



[Martha Oakes](#)
Special Judge
Oklahoma County
(405) 713-1116



[Matt Orendorff](#)
Special Judge
Sequoyah County
(918) 775-4613



Cory Ortega
Special Judge
Cleveland County
(405) 366-9039



[Kirsten Pace](#)
Special Judge
Tulsa County
(918) 596-5354



Wilma Palmer
Special Judge
Tulsa County
(918) 596-5345



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Osage County
(918) 287-4108



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Oklahoma County
(405) 713-7104



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(580) 332-8940



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(918) 756-0673



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(405) 713-1433



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Tulsa County
(918) 596-5384



[Jason Seigars](#)
Special Judge
Garfield County



Jason Serner
Special Judge
Creek County
(918) 227-4080



James M. Siderias
Special Judge
Oklahoma County
(405) 713-1466



[Jared Sigler](#)
Special Judge
Washington County
(918) 337-2880



[Rodney Sparkman](#)
Special Judge
Tulsa County
(918) 596-5394



[David A. Stephens](#)
Special Judge
Caddo County
(405) 247-3205



Jacqueline Stout
Special Judge
Mayes County
(918) 825-3404



Shannon Taylor
Special Judge
Tulsa County
(918) 596-5388



Katherine E. Thomas
Special Judge
Payne County
(405) 372-4380



Roy D. Tucker
Special Judge
Muskogee County
(918) 684-1611



Mark D. Uptegrove
Special Judge
McCurain County



Diane Vaughan
Special Judge
Payne County
(405) 747-8383



David Wilkie
Special Judge
Kay County



[Cassandra M. Williams](#)
Special Judge
Oklahoma County
(405) 713-1442



Tanya Wilson
Special Judge
Tulsa County
(918) 596-5397



Susan C. Worthington
Special Judge
Logan County
(405) 282-6941



[Susan Zwaan](#)
Special Judge
Comanche County
(580) 581-4586

2017 OKLAHOMA JUDICIAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE BOARD



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Administrative Director of the Court

Jari Askins, Administrative Director

NEW JUDGES

The new Judges' Orientation is the foundation for the ongoing judicial education provided to the members of the Oklahoma Judicial Conference. The four-day course offers twenty-six credit hours of preparation for managing civil and criminal proceedings from both trial and appellate court perspectives. The new judges also learn about their administrative duties, docket management strategies, and how and where to seek guidance regarding judicial ethics. Keeping well-educated judges on the bench is the goal of Judicial Education.

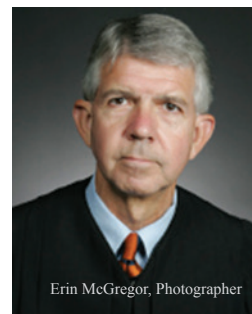
RETIRED SUPREME COURT JUSTICES



Justice Robert Lavender
1966-2007
Chief Justice 1979-1981



Justice Daniel Boudreau
1999-2004



Justice Steven Taylor
2004-2016
Chief Justice 2011-2013

ACTIVE RETIRED JUDGES

Active Retired Judges provide an invaluable service to the judicial system. After retirement, these Judges act on as needed basis to assist in alleviating conflicts and to ensure that dockets stay current. Active Retired Judges may conduct grand juries, trials or settlement conferences.

Honorable Glenn D. Adams
Honorable Dan G. Allen
Honorable Jerry Bass
Honorable Edward Cunningham
Honorable Joe Enos

Honorable Jimmy Filosa
Honorable Martha Kilgore
Honorable Tom Landrith
Honorable C. Allen McCall

Honorable Gene Prigmore
Honorable Dennis Sprouse
Honorable Joe C. Taylor
Honorable Donald Worthington

WORKERS' COMPENSATION COURT OF EXISTING CLAIMS

This limited jurisdiction tribunal considers cases involving on-the-job injuries occurring while an employee is within the scope of employment. The Workers' Compensation Court of Existing Claims resolves disputes relating to claims that arise before February 1, 2014. Appeals from the Workers' Compensation Court of Existing Claims are to the Oklahoma Supreme Court.



Pictured left to right: Margaret A. Bomhoff , L. Brad Taylor (Presiding), Michael W. McGivens, Carla Snipes

OKLAHOMA WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION

On May 6, 2013, Governor Mary Fallin signed SB1062, which created a new administrative Workers' Compensation Court Commission. Claims that arise after February 1, 2014, are assigned to administrative law judges appointed pursuant to the new legislation.

OKLAHOMA COURT CLERKS

Oklahoma has seventy-seven elected court clerks, one in each county. The Court Clerk is an officer of the court; the duties of the Court Clerk are ministerial in nature. The Court Clerk is statutorily responsible under 28 O.S. 2011 §151 for the collection of all fees, costs, and assessments that are properly owed to the District Courts of Oklahoma. The Court Clerks are the keepers and custodians of the records of the District Courts. They are currently at the forefront of the creation and implementation of the unified case management system for all Oklahoma Courts.

County	Court Clerk		County	Court Clerk	
Adair	Nichole Cooper	918-696-7633	Custer	Staci Hunter	580-323-3233
Alfalfa	Tammi Miller	580-596-3523	Delaware	Caroline Weaver	918-253-4420
Atoka	April Maxey	580-889-3565	Dewey	Rachelle Rogers	580-328-5521
Beaver	Tammie Patzkowsky	580-625-3191	Ellis	Sally Wayland	580-885-7255
Beckham	Donna Howell	580-928-3330	Garfield	Janelle M. Sharp	580-237-0232
Blaine	Christy Matli	580-623-5970	Garvin	Cindy Roberts	405-238-5596
Bryan	Donna Alexander	580-924-1446	Grady	Lisa Hannah	405-224-7446
Caddo	Patti Barger	405-247-3393	Grant	Deana Kilian	580-395-2828
Canadian	Marie Hirst	405-262-1070	Greer	Rhonda Henry	580-782-3665
Carter	Renee Bryant	580-223-5253	Harmon	Stacy Macias	580-688-3617
Cherokee	Shelly Kissinger	918-456-0691	Harper	Susan Breon	580-735-2010
Choctaw	Laura Sumner	580-326-7554	Haskell	Robin Rea	918-967-3323
Cimarron	Debbie Kincannon	580-544-2221	Hughes	Patty Tilley	405-379-3384
Cleveland	Marilyn Williams	405-321-6402	Jackson	Rhonda Stepanovich	580-482-0448
Coal	LaDonna Flowers	580-927-2281	Jefferson	Kimberly Berry	580-228-2961
Comanche	Robert Morales	580-355-4017	Johnston	Cassandra Slover	580-371-3281
Cotton	Janet Shively	580-875-3029	Kay	Marilee Thornton	580-362-3350
Craig	Deborah Mason	918-256-6451	Kingfisher	Lisa Markus	405-375-3813
Creek	Amanda Vanorsdol	918-227-2525	Kiowa	Kay Richards	580-726-5125

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County	Court Clerk	County	Court Clerk
Latimer	Melinda Brinlee 918-465-2011	Pawnee	Janet Dallas 918-762-2547
LeFlore	Melba Hall 918-647-3181	Payne	Lori Allen 405-372-4774
Lincoln	Cindy Kirby 405-258-1309	Pittsburg	Cindy Ledford 918-423-4859
Logan	Cheryl Smith 405-282-0123	Pontotoc	Karen Dunnigan 580-332-5763
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Major	Shauna Hoffman 580-227-4690	Pushmataha	Tina Freeman 580-298-2274
Marshall	Wanda Pearce 580-795-3278	Roger Mills	Jan Bailey 580-497-3361
Mayes	Rita Harrison 918-825-2185	Rogers	Kim Henry 918-923-4961
McClain	Kristel Gray 405-527-3221	Seminole	Kimberly Davis 405-257-6236
McCurtain	Vicki Justus 580-286-3693	Sequoyah	Vicki Beaty 918-775-4411
McIntosh	Lisa Rodebush 918-689-2282	Stephens	Dana Blevins 580-470-2000
Murray	Christie Pittman 580-622-3223	Texas	M. Renee Ellis 580-338-3003
Muskogee	Paula Sexton 918-682-7873	Tillman	Kevin Stevens 580-335-3023
Noble	Hillary Vorndran 580-336-5187	Tulsa	Don Newberry 918-596-5000
Nowata	April Frauenberger 918-273-0127	Wagoner	Jim Hight 918-485-4508
Okfuskee	Sherri Foreman 918-623-0525	Washington	Jill Spitzer 918-337-2870
Oklahoma	Rick Warren 405-713-1705	Washita	Carol Corbett 580-832-3836
Okmulgee	Charly Criner 918-756-3042	Woods	Staci Davey 580-327-3119
Osage	Jennifer Burd 918-287-4104	Woodward	Tammy Roberts 580-256-3413
Ottawa	Cassie Key 918-542-2801		

ARTISTS AND THE OKLAHOMA JUDICIAL CENTER

The large majority of the artwork in the Judicial Center, about sixty-five percent, was already in storage at the Oklahoma Historical Society. The new artwork obtained for the Judicial Center was commissioned or purchased from a coterie of superb Oklahoma artists. Many of the artists donated their work, or provided it at a cost much less than their standard fees. The collection continues to grow. In 2017, we received two incredible paintings from Eric Tippeconnic and Potteet Victory.



Stuart Ostler, Oklahoma Capitol Photographer

Pictured (left to right): Derek [d.g. smalling] Smalling, Enoch Kelly Haney, Brent Greenwood, Debby Williams, Nathan Hart, Benjamin Harjo, Harvey Pratt, Jeri Redcorn, Justice Yvonne Kauger, Jim Van Deman, Betty Price, Brent Learned, Burt Seabourn, Jim Bruce, Patrick Riley, Jean Richardson, and Don Narcomey

Not Pictured: Troy Anderson, Matthew Bearden, Carol Beesley, Les Berryhill, Lisan Tiger Blair, Lee Boccock, Neil Chapman, Don Corley, Chester Cowen, Ryan Cunningham, Mike Daniel, Tatyana Fazlalizadeh, Bill Glass,

Sharon Ahtone Harjo, Harold Holden, Daniel Horsechief, Helen Houp, Jennifer Cocoma Hustis, Selden Jones, Mike Larsen, Joni Maron-LaRue, Merlin Little Thunder, Trisha Eagle Mankiller, Victoria McKinney, Chris Nick, Jay O'Melia, Stuart Ostler, Fernando Padilla, Robert Redbird, Scott Roberts, Kolbe Roper, Collin Rosebrook, Anne Rosenthal, Barbara Scott, Connie Seabourn, Bill Sowell, Mary Stone, Virginia Stroud, Steven Taylor, Dana Tiger, Jane Semple Umsted, John A. White, Mike Wimmer, Gordon Yellowman, and Terry Zinn

Deceased: Herbert Adams, Spencer Asah, James Auchiah, Jean Bales, Eugene Bavinger, Fred Beaver, Dennis Belindo, Woody Big Bow, Sherman Chaddlesone, Acee Blue Eagle, Gordon Boris, N.R. Brewer, Elbridge Ayer Burbank, Bob Crouch, Woody Crumbo, Mavis Doering, J. Fox, Jacques Hans Gallerin, Boris Gordon, Anita Howard, Oscar Jacobson, Maria Martinez, Stephen Mopope, Narcissa Owen, W.C. 'Bill' Sellers, A. Shaw, Nan Sheets, Earnest Spybuck, Carl Sweezy, Monroe Tsatoke, Father John Walch, and Tillier Wesley

After the collection was completed, Gayleen Rabakukk, MFA wrote a book entitled Art of The Oklahoma Judicial Center with photography by Neil Chapman, EdD. The book was edited by Justice Yvonne Kauger, Justice James Edmondson, Kyle Shifflett, JD, and Debby Williams MFA with a forward by Judge Robert Henry and an afterward by Bob Blackburn, PhD. Caddo potter Jeri Redcorn is featured on the cover.



Pictured at the official book signing held at the Oklahoma History Center from left to right: Mary Aiston, Gayleen Rabakukk, Neil Chapman, Kyle Shifflett, Brent Learned, Jean Richardson, Dan Horsechief and Terry Zinn