

# Judicial Branch

- Supreme Court
- Court of Criminal Appeals
- Court of Civil Appeals
- District Judges
- Miscellaneous Courts
- District Attorneys

# Oklahoma Court System

The Oklahoma Court System is made up of the Supreme Court, the Court of Criminal Appeals, the Court of Civil Appeals, and seventy-seven District Courts.

<b>Courts of Last Resort</b>	Supreme Court Court of Criminal Appeals
<b>Intermediate Appellate Court</b>	Court of Civil Appeals
<b>Courts of General Jurisdiction</b>	District Courts
<b>Courts of Limited Jurisdiction</b>	Court On The Judiciary Court of Tax Review Workers' Compensation Court Municipal Criminal Courts of Record Municipal Courts Not of Record
<b>Court-Related Entities</b>	Judicial Nominating Commission Dispute Resolution Advisory Board

Unlike most states, Oklahoma has two courts of last resort. The Oklahoma 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. The Oklahoma Supreme Court has nine justices; the Court of Criminal Appeals, five judges; and the Court of Civil Appeals, twelve judges.

The Court of Civil Appeals is responsible for the majority of appellate decisions. These opinions may be released for publication by either the Oklahoma Supreme Court or the Court of Civil Appeals. When the opinions are released by the Oklahoma Supreme Court, they have precedential value. The Court of Civil Appeals is made up of four divisions, each composed of three judges. Two divisions of the Court of Civil Appeals are located in Oklahoma City, and two are in Tulsa.

Deciding cases is only one of the Oklahoma Supreme Court's functions. The court is also responsible for administering the state's entire judicial system. The court establishes rules of operation for all other courts in the state. The court formulates rules for practice of law, which govern the conduct of all attorneys, and it administers discipline in appropriate cases.

Administrative services for the court system are provided by the Administrative Office of the Courts. For more information please contact the Administrative Office of the Courts at 405/521-2450.

# Supreme Court

Article VII, Section 1; 20:1

**History and Function**—The Oklahoma Supreme Court determines all issues of a civil nature in the State of Oklahoma. Members of this court are appointed by the governor from a list of three names submitted by the Oklahoma Judicial Nominating Commission.

Name	City	District
Joseph M. Watt, <i>Chief Justice</i>	Altus	9
James R. Winchester, <i>Vice Chief Justice</i>	Chickasha	5
Robert E. Lavender	Claremore	1
Rudolph Hargrave	Wewoka	8
Marian P. Opala	Warr Acres	3
Yvonne Kauger	Colony	4
James E. Edmonson	Muskogee	7
Steven W. Taylor	McAlester	2
Tom Colbert	Tulsa	6

**Administration**—Howard Conyers, *Administrative Director of the Courts*; Julie L. Rorie, *General Counsel*. Administrative Office of the Courts is located in the Denver Davison Building, 1915 North Stiles, Suite 305, Oklahoma City 73105 (Agency Code 677; IA) • 405/521-2450 • www.oscn.net

**Clerk of the Appellate Courts** (Article VII, Section 5, 20:78), Michael S. Richie  
Offices located in Room B, State Capitol, Oklahoma City, OK 73105 • 405/521-2163

**Marshal**—Nancy Parrott, State Capitol, Room 245 • 405/521-2263

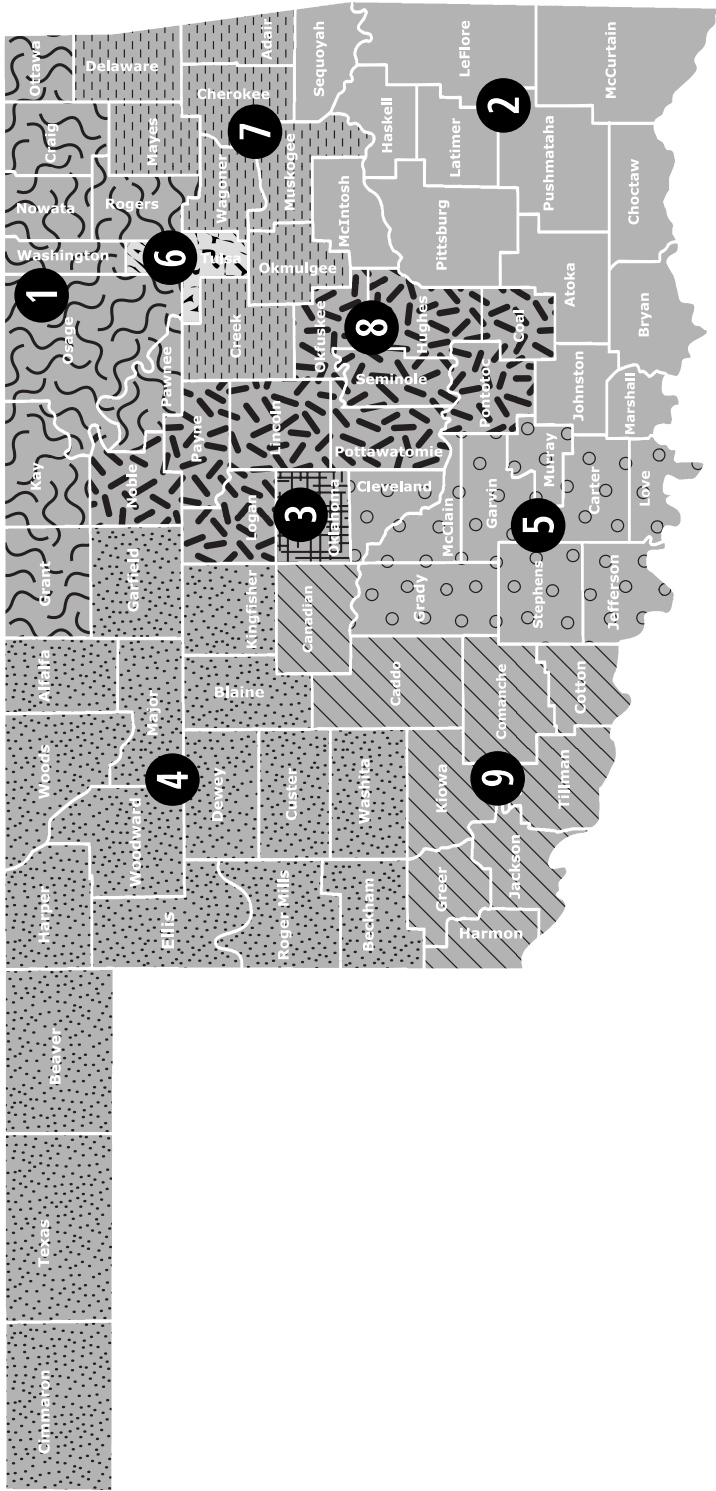
## Judicial Assistants

Name	Justice	Name	Justice
David Dixon	Tom Colbert	Donna Embry	Steven W. Taylor
Jane Eulberg	Tom Colbert	Barbara Kinney	Steven W. Taylor
Diane Barnett	James Edmonson	Paul White	James Winchester
Michael Elliott	James Edmonson	Sarah Lee Parrish	James Winchester
Merlaine Anderson	Rudolph Hargrave	Vicki Angus	Joseph M. Watt
Frank Sewell	Rudolph Hargrave	Grey Satterfield	Joseph M. Watt
Cindy George	Yvonne Kauger		
W. Kyle Shifflett	Yvonne Kauger		
John Galowitch	Robert Lavender		
Kristin McAdams	Robert Lavender		
Bobbie Moore	Marian Opala		
vacant	Marian Opala		

## Referees

Greg Albert  
Louise Helms  
Daniel E. Karim  
Barbara Swimley

# Supreme Court Judicial Districts



# Justices of the Supreme Court

**Chief Justice Joseph M. Watt**, District 9. Watt was born on March 8, 1947, in Austin, Texas. He graduated from Austin High School in 1965, received a bachelor's degree in history and government from Texas Tech University in 1969, and a Doctor of Jurisprudence from the University of Texas Law School in 1972. That same year, Watt was named Outstanding Law Student in the Nation by the Delta Theta Phi Law Fraternity. Watt is a member of Omicron Delta Kappa and Delta Theta Phi. Admitted to practice law in both Texas and Oklahoma, Watt moved to Altus, Oklahoma, in 1973, where he worked in private law from 1973 to 1985. He also served as Altus city prosecutor from 1973 to 1985, and as city attorney from 1980 to 1985. Watt was appointed special district judge for Jackson County in 1985, and was elected associate district judge in 1986. He served in that capacity until January 1991, when he was asked to serve as general counsel in Governor David Walters's administration. Watt was appointed as justice to the Oklahoma Supreme Court on May 18, 1992, and he currently serves as the court's chief justice. During his tenure on the Oklahoma Supreme Court, Watt was involved in important cases including *Taylor v. Chubb Group of Insurance Companies* (874 P.2d 806, 1994), which defines paralegal duties recoverable as attorney fees; and *Tuller v. Shallcross* (WL 677975, 1994), which directs that auto liability insurance existence and contents are discoverable. Watt is a member of the Oklahoma and Texas bar associations and the Supreme Court Long Range Planning Commission. He and his wife, Cathy, have four children—Justin, Christopher, Jennifer, and Michael. Watt can be reached at Room 240, State Capitol Building, Oklahoma City, OK 73105, or 405/521-3848.



**Vice Chief Justice James R. Winchester**, District 5. Winchester was born on March 23, 1952, in Clinton, Oklahoma, and graduated from Clinton High School in 1970. He received a bachelor's degree from the University of Oklahoma in 1974, and a Juris Doctor degree from Oklahoma City University in 1977. Winchester practiced law in Weatherford and Hinton before being named associate district judge for Caddo County in January 1983. In December 1983, at the age of thirty, Winchester became one of the youngest district judges in the state, when he was appointed district judge for the Sixth Judicial District of Oklahoma. During his tenure as district judge, he tried more than 200 jury trials ranging from fraud to first-degree murder. The Oklahoma Trial Lawyers Association named Winchester the "Outstanding State Trial Court Judge" in 1986. He served as an executive board member of the Oklahoma Judicial Conference from 1992 to 1996. He also served as president of the Oklahoma Judicial Conference in 1995. From August 1997 to January 2000, Winchester served as a United States Administrative Law Judge. Governor Frank Keating appointed him to the Oklahoma Supreme Court on January 4, 2000. Winchester and his wife, State Representative Susan Winchester, have one son, Davis. Winchester believes children are one of this state's most valuable assets, and



## Justices of the Supreme Court

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he established the second in-state program entitled “Children Coping With Divorce” to assist children during that difficult time. Winchester resides in Chickasha and is a member of the Chickasha First Presbyterian Church. Winchester can be reached at Room 244, State Capitol Building, Oklahoma City, OK 73105, or 405/521-3842.

**Justice Tom Colbert**, District 6. Colbert was born on December 30, 1949, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. He attended Eastern Oklahoma State College, where he received an associate’s degree in 1970. He also received a bachelor’s degree in 1973 from Kentucky State University, and a master’s degree in education from Eastern Kentucky State University in 1976. Colbert served in the United States Army in the Criminal Investigation Division from 1973 to 1975, when he received an honorable discharge. Following his military career, Colbert enrolled in the University of Oklahoma School of Law, and received a Juris Doctor degree in 1982.



During his collegiate career, Colbert was named to Phi Delta Phi and as an NCAA All-American in track and field. Colbert served as an assistant dean at Marquette University Law School in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, from 1982 to 1984. He returned to Oklahoma and served as assistant district attorney in Oklahoma County from 1984 to 1986. He entered private law practice and worked for Miles-LaGrange & Colbert from 1986 to 1989, and with Colbert and Associates from 1989 to 2000. He also served as assistant general council for the Oklahoma Department of Human Services from 1988 to 1989 and from 1999 to 2000. Colbert received a judicial appointment on the Oklahoma Court of Civil Appeals in November 1999, and served as the court’s chief judge in 2004. Governor Brad Henry appointed Colbert as justice to the Oklahoma Supreme Court on October 7, 2004. He is the first African American to be appointed to the Oklahoma Court of Civil Appeals and the Oklahoma Supreme Court. Colbert and his wife, Doretha Guion, have three grown children. He continues active participation in the American, National, Oklahoma, and Tulsa County bar associations. He also participates in the Track & Field Masters Level mentoring program for young men, and the summer reading program for children. Colbert can be reached at Room 204, State Capitol Building, Oklahoma City, OK 73105, or 405/521-3843.

**Justice James Edmonson**, District 7. Born in Kansas City, Missouri, Edmonson received a bachelor’s degree from Northeastern State University in 1967. He served in the United States Navy from 1967 to 1969. Following his military service, Edmonson enrolled at Georgetown University Law School and received his law degree in 1973. His legal career includes serving as Muskogee County’s assistant district attorney from 1976 to 1978, assistant United States attorney from 1978 to 1980, and acting U.S. attorney for Oklahoma’s Eastern District from 1980 to 1981. Edmonson entered private law practice and was a partner in the Edmonson Law Office from 1980 to 1981. He served as district judge for District 15 in 1983 and continued in that capacity for twenty years. Governor Brad Henry appointed

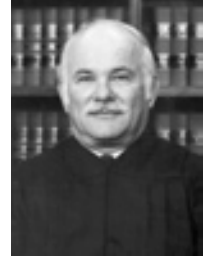


## Justices of the Supreme Court

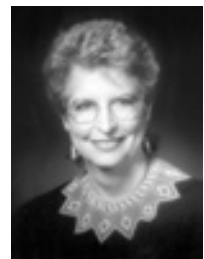
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Edmondson as justice to the Oklahoma Supreme Court on December 2, 2003. He and his wife, Suzanne, have two grown children. Edmondson can be reached at Room 202, State Capitol Building, Oklahoma City, OK 73105, or 405/521-3830.

**Justice Rudolph Hargrave**, District 8. A resident of Wewoka, Oklahoma, Hargrave attended Wewoka Public Schools, East Central State University, and the University of Oklahoma, where he received his law degree in 1949. He is a member of Delta Theta Phi legal fraternity. Hargrave worked in private law practice in Wewoka from 1949 to 1964. His public career began in 1964 when he became county judge for Seminole County, serving in that capacity until 1967. He served as Seminole County Superior Court judge from 1967 to 1969, and as Seminole County district judge from 1969 to 1978, 22nd Judicial District, chief judge, Office Number 3. He also served as chief judge for Administrative Zone Number 3. Hargrave was appointed justice to the Oklahoma Supreme Court on October 10, 1978, and retained by the voters for six-year terms in 1980, 1986, 1992, and 1998. He was elected as the court's chief justice in January 1989. During his first term as chief justice, Hargrave was elected by the National Conference of Chief Justices to serve as the organization's vice-president. He is the only Oklahoma Supreme Court justice to serve in that position. Hargrave was elected for the second time as chief justice on January 1, 2001. Hargrave is a member of the American, Oklahoma, and Seminole County bar associations. He also is a member of the Oklahoma Judicial Conference. Hargrave and his wife, Madeline, have three children—Cindy Keefer, John Robert Hargrave, and Jana Howard. He and his wife, Madeline, continue to live in Wewoka, and are members of the First United Methodist Church. Hargrave can be reached at Room 202, State Capitol Building, Oklahoma City, OK 73105, or 405/521-3847.



**Justice Yvonne Kauger**, District 4. A fourth generation Oklahoman, Kauger was born in Cordell, Oklahoma, on August 3, 1937, and raised in Colony. A graduate of Southwestern Oklahoma State University and the Oklahoma City University School of Law, Kauger 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. Governor George Nigh appointed her as justice to the Oklahoma Supreme Court on March 11, 1984. She served as the court's chief justice from January 1997 to December 1998. Kauger founded the Gallery of the Plains Indian in Colony, co-founded Red Earth, and has served as coordinator for the Sovereignty Symposium since its inception in 1987. The symposium is a seminar on Indian law sponsored by the Oklahoma Supreme Court. Kauger has received numerous honors and awards throughout her distinguished career including being named valedictorian of her graduating class at Colony High School, and graduating first in her class from the OCU School of Law. In 1984 she was adopted by the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes of Oklahoma. She was named National Delta Zeta in 1988, and received the Oklahoma City Pioneer Award in 1989. Kauger served as the featured speaker at the



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Twentieth William O. Douglas Lecture Series at Gonzaga University in 1990. She received an honorary doctorate degree from OCU in 1991, and has been named as an honorary alumnus by both OCU and Southwestern Oklahoma State University. In June 1999 the American Judicature Society awarded Kauger the Herbert Harley Award in recognition of her outstanding efforts to improve the administration of justice. That same year, the Oklahoma Bar Association honored her with the Judicial Excellence Award. In March 2001 Justice Kauger was inducted into the Oklahoma Women's Hall of Fame. In addition, she is a member of the District State-Federal Judicial Council and the Washita County Hall of Fame. Kauger can be reached at Room 242, State Capitol Building, Oklahoma City, OK 73105, or 405/521-3841.

**Justice Robert Lavender**, District 1. Born on July 19, 1926, in Muskogee,



Oklahoma, Lavender spent his early years in Tulsa and later on a farm near Catoosa. Following his 1944 graduation from Catoosa High School, Lavender entered the military, serving in the United States Naval Reserve in the South Pacific during World War II. He entered the University of Tulsa in 1946 and received a law degree in 1953. During his college years, Lavender worked as an assistant court clerk in the District and Common Pleas courts in Tulsa County. He later served as assistant city attorney in Tulsa, before entering private law practice in Claremore,

Oklahoma. Governor Henry Bellmon appointed Lavender as justice to the Oklahoma Supreme Court, and he was elected to a full six-year term in 1966 and again in 1972, 1978, 1984, 1990, and 1996. He became chief justice in January 1979, and served in that capacity for a two-year term. Lavender has been honored with the first annual Faculty and Alumni Award by the University of Tulsa Law School and the Distinguished Alumnus Award by the University of Tulsa. He and his wife, Maxine, have four children. Lavender is a 32nd Degree Mason, and continues active participation in the Claremore American Legion Post and the Village United Methodist Church. Lavender can be reached at Room 208, State Capitol Building, Oklahoma City, OK 73105, or 405/521-3846.

**Justice Marian Opala**, District 3. Born in Lodz, Poland, in 1921, Opala became

a United States citizen in 1953, and graduated from Oklahoma City University School of Law the same year. He earned a BSB degree in economics from Oklahoma City University in 1957, and a Master of Laws degree from New York University School of Law in 1968. Opala began his legal career as assistant county attorney in Oklahoma County. He entered private law practice in 1956, and served as a referee for the Oklahoma Supreme Court from 1960 to 1965. He later worked as staff lawyer for Justice Rooney McInerney. From 1969 to 1977 Opala directed the state's



court system as its first administrative director. He also served as judge on the State Industrial Court when it was renamed the Workers' Compensation Court in 1977-1978. Governor David Boren appointed Opala as justice to the Oklahoma Supreme Court on November 21, 1978. Voters approved him in 1980 for the remainder of his



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predecessor's term, and retained him for six-year terms in 1982, 1988, and 1994. He served as the court's chief justice from January 1, 1991 to December 31, 1992. Author of numerous legal papers, Opala serves as an adjunct law professor in all three of the in-state law schools. He also is a frequent lecturer at various national judicial and legal education programs. Since 1982 he has represented Oklahoma in the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State laws, where he is now a lifetime commissioner. A member of the Order of the Coif and the American Law Institute, Opala was appointed as a public member of the Administrative Conference of the United States in 1993. He is the recipient of the 1997 Oklahoma Bar Association's Award for Judicial Excellence; the 2000 OCU School of Law Lifetime Achievement in Law Award; the 2002 Freedom of Information Oklahoma, Inc., First Amendment Award; and was a 2000 inductee into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame. Opala can be reached at Room 238, State Capitol Building, Oklahoma City, OK 73105, or 405/521-3839.

**Justice Steven W. Taylor**, District 2. Born on June 7, 1949, in Henryetta, Oklahoma, Taylor attended McAlester Public Schools. He received a bachelor's degree in political science from Oklahoma State University in 1971 and a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Oklahoma in 1974. Taylor joined the United States Marine Corps and served both active duty and in the reserves from 1970 to 1978. Following his military career, Taylor entered private law practice and worked for Gotcher, Gotcher, & Taylor Law Firm from 1978 to 1984. Taylor's public service career began in 1980, when he was elected to the McAlester City Council. In 1982 he was elected mayor of McAlester, making him the youngest mayor in the city's history. In 1983 he received recognition as one of three "Outstanding Young Oklahomans." Recognizing Taylor's leadership in economic development, the City of McAlester named a \$10 million industrial park for him, where seven industries now employ over 1,300 Oklahomans. The city further honored Taylor in 1997 by naming him "Citizen of the Year." Governor George Nigh appointed Taylor associate district judge in 1984, a position he was reelected to in 1986 and again in 1990. In 1991 Taylor became the first associate district judge elected president of the Oklahoma Judicial Conference. In 1994 he was elected district judge and chief judge of the eighteenth Judicial District that included McIntosh and Pittsburg counties. In 1997 and 2003 he was elected presiding judge of the East Central Judicial Administrative District that encompassed ten counties. During the twenty years Taylor served as a trial judge, he presided over more than 500 jury trials including the Terry Nichols's Oklahoma City bombing trial. He has received numerous awards including the Oklahoma Bar Association 2003 "Award of Judicial Excellence." On September 23, 2004, Governor Brad Henry appointed Taylor as justice of the Oklahoma Supreme Court.



# Court of Criminal Appeals

Article VII, Section 1; 20:31

**History and Function**—The Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals is the highest court in Oklahoma with appellate jurisdiction in criminal cases. It is the state court of last resort in criminal matters. The court derives its origin and jurisdiction from the state constitution, which was formulated by the constitutional convention and submitted to and adopted by the people of Oklahoma at the first election on September 17, 1907. Members of this court are appointed by the governor from a list of three names submitted by the Oklahoma Judicial Nominating Commission.

Name	City	District
Charles S. Chapel, <i>Presiding Judge</i>	Tulsa	1
Gary L. Lumpkin, <i>Vice-Presiding Judge</i>	Madill	3
Charles A. Johnson	Norman	2
Arlene Johnson	Oklahoma City	4
David Lewis	Lawton	5

**Administration**—Janis Hubbard, *Court Administrator*

**Office:** State Capitol Building, Room 230, Oklahoma City, OK 73105 • (Agency Code 199, IA) 405/521-2156

[www.occa.state.ok.us](http://www.occa.state.ok.us)

## Staff Attorneys

Lendell S. Blosser  
David C. Bugg  
Jim Chastain  
Bill Foster  
Pete Gelvin  
Patty Grotta  
Suzanne Heggy

Gaylene Henley  
Lou Ann Kohlman  
Maria Kolar  
Brad Little  
Linda McGuire  
M. Caroline Mitchell  
Allen Smith

# Judges of the Court of Criminal Appeals

**Charles S. Chapel, Presiding Judge**, Judicial District No. 1. Chapel was born in Delight, Arkansas. He received a bachelor's degree from San Diego State University, a Juris Doctor from the University of Tulsa School of Law, and a Master of Laws degree from the University of Virginia School of Law. He served in the United States Marine Corps from 1959 to 1963. The Oklahoma Bar Association named Chapel as Outstanding Law Student in 1968. Chapel founded one of the largest firms in Tulsa—Chapel, Riggs, Abney, Neal, & Turpen. Chapel worked as an adjunct law professor at the University of Tulsa, and he has served on several Oklahoma and Tulsa County Bar committees including Legal Internship Executive Committee and as trustee for the Oklahoma Bar Foundation. He also served as *Tulsa Law Journal* associate editor, and he received numerous Am-Jur and CJS awards. Governor David Walters appointed Chapel to the Court of Criminal Appeals on January 12, 1993, and he was retained in 1994 and 1998. His civic duties have included serving as the vice president and director of the Arkansas River Development Corporation, Green Country Council of Camp Fire president, and Jenks Public Schools Foundation trustee. Chapel and his wife, Diane, have three children—Jennifer, Andrea, and Jesse. Chapel can be reached at Room 230, State Capitol Building, Oklahoma City, OK 73105, 405/521-2158.



**Gary L. Lumpkin, Vice Presiding Judge**, District 3. Originally a native of Sentinel, Oklahoma, Lumpkin graduated from Weatherford High School in 1964. He received a bachelor's degree in business administration from Southwestern State College in 1968, and a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Oklahoma School of Law in 1974. Lumpkin served in the United States Marine Corps from 1968 to 1971, serving eighteen months in Vietnam. He retired in 1998, after thirty years of service, with the rank of colonel in the Marine Corps Reserves. He completed his military service as one of only two Marine Reserve judges assigned to the Navy-Marine



Corps Court of Criminal Appeals. Lumpkin worked as a staff attorney for the Oklahoma Department of Consumer Affairs. He was appointed assistant district attorney for Marshall County in 1976, and subsequently first assistant district attorney for the Twentieth District. Lumpkin served as associate district judge for Marshall County from 1982 to 1985, and as district judge, Twentieth Judicial District, Division II from 1985 to 1989. Governor Henry Bellmon appointed him to the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals, and he began his service on the court in January 1989. Lumpkin currently serves as the court's vice presiding judge. Lumpkin was named Outstanding Young Man of America by the U.S. Jaycees in 1979, and Outstanding Assistant District Attorney of the Third Congressional District by the Oklahoma District Attorneys Association in 1981. He also received the 1999 William J. Holloway Jr. Professionalism Award from the William J. Holloway Jr. American Inn of Court. Lumpkin is a member of the Marine Corps Reserve Officers Association, Oklahoma, Oklahoma County, and Marshall County bar associations, Oklahoma Bar Foundation, Oklahoma Judicial Conference, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4611, and the William J. Holloway Jr. American Inns of Court CV. Lumpkin and his wife, Barbara, reside in Madill and have

## Judges of the Court of Criminal Appeals

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one child. Lumpkin can be reached at Room 230, State Capitol Building, Oklahoma City, OK 73105, 405/521-4956.

**Judge Charles A. Johnson**, District 2. Johnson was born in Kansas City, Missouri, and graduated from Ponca City High School. He attended the University of Oklahoma, where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree and a Bachelor of Laws degree in 1955. Johnson served in the United States Air Force and retired with the rank of colonel from the United States Air Force Reserve, having received the Meritorious Service Medal and the Legion of Merit. Following his release from active duty, Johnson practiced law in Pawhuska. He later moved to Ponca City and began his own law practice. He was a senior partner of Phipps, Johnson, Holmes & Hermanson, later Johnson & Hermanson, and finally the Johnson Law Firm. Johnson continued to be a private practitioner of law until Governor Henry Bellmon appointed him to the Court of Criminal Appeals in 1989. Johnson was honored as one of three Outstanding Young Oklahomans by the Oklahoma Junior Chamber of Commerce, and was selected the 1993 Oklahoma Trial Lawyer Association Outstanding Appellate Judge of the Year. He is a member of the American and Oklahoma bar associations. Johnson and his wife, Janis, have two children—Mike and Jill. Johnson can be reached at Room 230, State Capitol Building, Oklahoma City, OK 73105, or 405/521-2159.



**Judge Arlene Johnson**, District 4. Johnson was born in St. Paul, Minnesota. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from the University of Oklahoma and Juris Doctor degree from the University of Oklahoma School of Law. After admission to Oklahoma Bar on July 29, 1971, she practiced law with the Oklahoma City law firm of Bulla and Horning, and subsequently served as judicial law clerk to the Court of Criminal Appeals. Johnson worked as Oklahoma County assistant district attorney and as assistant Oklahoma Attorney General. She served as assistant United States Attorney for the Western District of Oklahoma for twenty-one years. She received the United States Attorney General's John Marshall Award for Outstanding Legal Achievement (1998), and the FBI's Commendation for Exceptional Service in the Public Interest (1998). Johnson was admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court, Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals, and the United States District Court for the Western District. Governor Brad Henry appointed Johnson to the Court of Criminal Appeals, District 4, on February 18, 2005. She is a member of the Tenth Circuit Uniform Criminal Jury Instruction Committee, the Admissions and Grievance Committee for the Western District of Oklahoma, and is a former member of the United States Magistrate Merit Selection Panel for the Western District of Oklahoma. Johnson has also served as an adjunct professor at the University of Oklahoma College of Law.



**Vacant**, District 5. Justice Steve Lile, who had been appointed to the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals on January 4, 1999, resigned his position effective March 1, 2005.

# Court of Civil Appeals

Article 20:30. Section 1, 30.2

**History and Function**—Created by the Oklahoma Legislature in 1968, six new positions were added to the original six judges of the Oklahoma Court of (Civil) Appeals in 1982. With terms of six years each, judges are elected on a non-partisan retention ballot from each of the six congressional districts as they existed before the 2002 election. If a majority of those who cast ballots vote in favor of retention, the judge will serve another term. If a vacancy occurs on the Court of Civil Appeals prior to the expiration of a term, the governor appoints a successor, relying upon the recommendation of the Judicial Nominating Commission. The clerk of the Oklahoma Supreme Court serves as clerk of the Court of Civil Appeals. Divided into two sections, the judges are from Districts 1, 2, and 3, Divisions 2 and 4 in Tulsa, and Districts 4, 5, and 6, Divisions 1 and 3 in Oklahoma City. The court’s caseload is comprised solely of civil appeals assigned by the Oklahoma Supreme Court. Final decisions of the Court of Civil Appeals are not directly appealable to the Oklahoma Supreme Court; however, if a majority of the justices agree that certiorari should be granted, the decision by the Court of Civil Appeals may be reviewed by the Oklahoma Supreme Court.

Division 1—Oklahoma City		Division 3—Oklahoma City	
Glenn D. Adams, <i>Presiding</i>	Norman	Kenneth L. Buettner, <i>Chief Judge</i>	Edmond
E. Bay Mitchell III	Enid	Carol Hansen	Oklahoma City
		Larry E. Joplin, <i>Presiding</i>	Norman
Division 2—Tulsa		Division 4—Tulsa	
John F. Reif, <i>Presiding</i>	Tulsa	Ronald J. Stubblefield	Tulsa
Joe C. Taylor,	Durant	Jerry L. Goodman, <i>Presiding</i>	Tulsa
Jane Wiseman	Tulsa	W. Keith Rapp, <i>Vice Chief Judge</i>	Tulsa

## Administration Offices

Oklahoma City—1915 North Stiles, Suite 357, Oklahoma City, OK 73105 • 405/521-3751

Tulsa—440 South Houston, Suite 601, Tulsa, OK 74127 • 918/581-2711 • [www.oscn.net](http://www.oscn.net)

Michael S. Richie, Clerk of the Appellate Courts

## Judicial Assistant Law Clerks

Oklahoma City		Tulsa	
Beth Alonso	Donnie Lynn	Robert Cunningham	Hilda Harlton
Susan Beaty	Elaine Howard	Tom Dalton	Sandra Jarvis
Deborah Clark	Chris Ruggiers	Theresa Dreiling	Lori Kastner
Kathryn Flood	Susan Winston	Emily Duensing	Randy Lewin
Mike Golberg	Amanda Nixon	D. Norman Gilder	Lora Montross
Vicky Kelly	Lu Willis	Tammie Goodell	Cristina Romero
Susan Knox			

# Judges of the Court of Civil Appeals

## Oklahoma City

**Judge Glenn D. Adams**, Norman, District 4, Office 1. Adams was born on July 28, 1950. He received a bachelor's degree from John Brown University and a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Oklahoma School of Law. Adams served as associate district judge from 1984 to 1990. He was appointed to the Oklahoma Court of Civil Appeals in March 1990.



**Vice Chief Judge Kenneth L. Buettner**, District 5, Office 1. Born on June 17, 1950, in Oklahoma City,



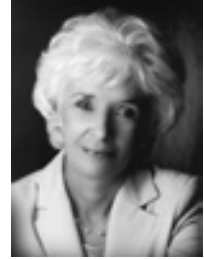
Oklahoma, Buettner received a bachelor's degree from Texas Christian University in 1972, and a Juris Doctor degree from Southern Methodist University in 1975. He has completed additional graduate work at the University of Denver and the University of Central Oklahoma. Buettner served in the United States Air Force from 1976 to 1980 including the Judge Advocate General's Corps. Buettner's civic participation includes the Leadership Edmond Class IX, Edmond Public School Foundation trustee from 1995 to 2001, Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence trustee, 2001 to present, St. John's Endowment Fund trustee, 1995 to present; St. John the Baptist Catholic Church Finance Board from 1990 to 1996; and the Board of Christian Education, 1998 to present. He is a member of the Oklahoma and Oklahoma County bar associations as well as the Colorado Bar and State Bar of Texas. He is an Oklahoma Bar Foundation Fellow, and a member of the American Bar Association Appellate Judge Division, the American Judges Association, and the Luther Bohanon American Inn of Court.

**Judge E. Bay Mitchell, III**, Enid, District 6, Office 1. Mitchell was born on November 6, 1953. He grew up in Enid, Oklahoma, and graduated from Enid High School in 1972. He attended the University of Oklahoma, where he received a bachelor's degree in 1976 and a Juris Doctor degree in 1979. Mitchell worked in private law practice for fourteen years in Oklahoma City and in Enid. In 1993 he became staff attorney to the Honorable Carl B. Jones of the Oklahoma Court of Civil Appeals. Governor Frank Keating appointed Mitchell to the Oklahoma Court of Civil Appeals in 2002, and the voters retained him in November 2004. Mitchell is a member of the Oklahoma and Oklahoma County bar associations. He is also a member of the OBA Appellate Practice Section, a Sustaining Fellow of the Oklahoma Bar Foundation, and a member of the Oklahoma Supreme Court Committee for Uniform Jury Instructions. He is a former member of the OBA Administration of Justice Committee, Oklahoma Association of Defense Counsel, Defense Research Institute, and a volunteer at Legal Aid of Western Oklahoma. He has been admitted to practice in all Oklahoma state courts, the U.S. District Courts for the Western and Northern Districts of Oklahoma, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit, and the U.S. Supreme Court. Mitchell and his wife, Debra, have been married for twenty-eight years. They have three children—Elliot, Madeline, and Adam.



## Judges of the Court of Civil Appeals

**Judge Carol M. Hansen**, Oklahoma City, District 6, Office 2. Born in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Hansen received a bachelor's degree and a Juris Doctor degree from Oklahoma City University. Hansen served as municipal judge in Stillwater in 1983 and as marshal for the Oklahoma Supreme Court in 1984. She was appointed as judge to the Oklahoma Court of Civil Appeals in 1985, and was again elected in a contested election in 1986. In 1993 Hansen became the first woman to serve as chief judge of any appellate court in Oklahoma. She is a member of the American Judication Society, American, Oklahoma, and Oklahoma County bar associations, Dispute Resolution Advisory Board, and the Ginsburg Inns of Court. Hansen also serves as an Oklahoma City University trustee, and is a Oklahoma Bar Foundation Fellow. She married Paul Hansen (deceased). She has five children—Elizabeth, Patti, Judith, Mary, and Heidi.



**Judge Larry E. Joplin**, District 4, Office 2. Born on August 9, 1946, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Joplin received a bachelor's degree and a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Oklahoma. While in law school, Joplin was selected for the Oklahoma Law Review, and Moot Court, with his team placing third nationally his junior year. Joplin served as an attorney with Pierce & Couch from 1971 to 1973, and Bohannon & Barth from 1973 to 1976. He was a partner in his own law firm, Wheatley & Joplin, from 1978 to 1982, and a partner with Crowe & Dunlevy from 1982 to 1993. Joplin also served as a special prosecutor for the Oklahoma County District Attorney's office from 1976 to 1978, as director of the State of Oklahoma Office, Washington, D.C. in 1993, and as general counsel for the State Insurance Department from 1993 to 1994. Joplin was appointed as judge to the Oklahoma Court of Civil Appeals in November 1994. He married the former Susan Colley. They have three children—Karen, David, and Matthew. Joplin's hobbies include travel and reading.



## Tulsa

**Judge Jerry L. Goodman**, District 1, Office 1. Born on April 17, 1939, in Mangum, Oklahoma, Goodman received a bachelor's degree from the University of Tulsa in 1961, and a Juris Doctor degree from Georgetown University in 1964. He was appointed to the Oklahoma Court of Civil Appeals on July 26, 1994. He is a member of the American, Oklahoma, and Tulsa County bar associations, American Judicature Society, and the Oklahoma Judicial Conference. Goodman and his wife, Donna, have four children—Courtney, Polly, Mallory, and Benjamin.



## Judges of the Court of Civil Appeals

**Judge Jane P. Wiseman**, District 1, Office 2. Wiseman received a Bachelor of Arts



degree from Cornell University in 1969, a Master of Arts degree in American history from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1971, and a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Tulsa College of Law in 1973. She began clerking for Rosenstein, Fist & Ringold in her second term in law school, and continued as a legal intern and later as an associate until her first child was born in 1975. Wiseman worked as a sole practitioner until January 1977, when she was appointed as special judge for Tulsa County. In 1981 she became district judge, where she was assigned first to the Family

Relations Division and then to the Civil Division. In March 2005 Governor Brad Henry appointed her to the Court of Civil Appeals. Wiseman has served on the faculty of the National Judicial College in Reno, Nevada, and currently teaches case management for the American Academy of Judicial Education. She is married to Jim Hodges and has two sons—Jamie and John. She also has two sons-by-marriage—Clayton and Kevin.

**Judge Keith Rapp**, District 2, Office 2. Born on May 2, 1934, in Wheelersburg, Ohio,

Rapp received a bachelor's degree from Southwest Missouri University with graduate studies in mathematics and statistics at the University of Missouri, the University of Minnesota, and the University of Arizona. He received a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Tulsa and a Master of Laws degree from the University of Virginia. From 1953 to 1955, Rapp completed two carrier tours of duty in the Korean and far eastern waters as an aerial navigator and electronics warfare operator with the VC-35. He retired from the Naval Reserves as a Judge Advocate General Corps commander.



Prior to attending law school, Rapp was an aerospace engineer specializing in inertial guidance and navigation systems. He worked on every major U.S. space program including Mercury, Gemini, Apollo, and SkyLab. He also worked on Bomarc, the first operational surface to air missile. He attended law school while working as an engineer and was named Outstanding First-Year Law Student, awarded a Scholarship Key, named three times to the Dean's List, and was a member of the *Tulsa Law Review*. Following his graduation from the University of Tulsa School of Law, Rapp worked as public defender and city prosecutor in Broken Arrow, as a municipal judge in Bixby, as an alternative municipal judge for the City of Tulsa, and as judge of the District Fourteen Court. He was appointed as judge to the Oklahoma Court of Civil Appeals in 1984, and has served as the court's presiding judge, vice chief judge, and chief judge. Rapp served as a instructor of Sino Soviet Relations and Atomic and Biological Warfare in the Naval Reserves Officers' School, and as an business law instructor at Tulsa Junior College. He also served as Tulsa Junior College regent. While working in private law practice, Rapp was a certified lawyer for the General Electric Corporation, providing extensive work in the formation and operation of banks, finance companies, and insurance companies. He served as counsel and director of banks and as director of two national insurance companies. Rapp is a member of the Oklahoma and Tulsa County bar associations. He married the former Mary Lynn Clanton. They have three children—Elizabeth, Kathy, and Joseph.



## Judges of the Court of Civil Appeals

**Judge John Reif**, District 2, Office 1. Born on June 19, 1951, in Tulsa, Oklahoma, Reif graduated valedictorian of his 1969 graduating class at Cascia Hall in Tulsa. He attended the University of Tulsa, where he received a bachelor's degree in 1973 and a Juris Doctor degree in 1977. Reif worked as both a full-time and part-time police officer for the City of Owasso from 1973 to 1975. He also worked as a planner and grants specialist for the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, Indian Nations Council of Government from 1974 to 1977; as an assistant district attorney for Tulsa County from 1978 to 1981; and as special district judge for the Fourteenth Judicial District from 1981 to 1984. Governor George Nigh appointed him as judge for the Oklahoma Court of Civil Appeals in May 1984. The voters elected him in November 1984 and retained him in 1990, 1996, and 2002. He served as the court's vice chief judge in 1993 and 2001 and as chief judge in 1994 and 2002. Reif also has worked as an adjunct professor at Oral Roberts University, teaching undergraduate business law since 1986. Reif married the former Alyo Brewer of Neodesha, Kansas.



**Judge Ronald J. Stubblefield**, District 3, Office 2. Born on December 16, 1946, in Bristow, Oklahoma, Stubblefield received a bachelor's degree and a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Oklahoma. He served in the United States Army from 1968 to 1970, serving one year in the Republic of Vietnam. Stubblefield worked in private law practice in Atoka, Oklahoma, from 1975 to 1978. He also served as district attorney from 1978 to 1982 for District Nineteen, which includes Atoka, Bryan, and Coal counties. He was elected judge to the Oklahoma Court of Civil Appeals in 1983. Stubblefield married the former Patricia P. Livingston. They have two children—Matthew and Sean.



**Judge Joe C. Taylor**, District 3, Office 1. Born on March 28, 1942, in Durant, Oklahoma, Taylor received a bachelor's degree from Oklahoma State University in 1965 and a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Oklahoma in 1968. He retired as a lieutenant colonel in the Judge Advocate Generals' Corps of the United States Army Reserve. Taylor's judicial service began in 1969, when he was appointed special district judge for Bryan County. He served as associate district judge from 1972 to 1976 and as district judge from 1976 to 1993 for District Nineteen. Taylor has served as the presiding judge for the Southeastern Judicial Administrative District, presiding judge for the Court on the Judiciary Trial Division, chairman of the Assembly of Presiding Judges, president of the Oklahoma Judicial Conference, and presiding judge of the Choctaw Nation Tribal Court. Taylor was appointed to the Oklahoma Court of Civil Appeals in January 1993, and served as the court's chief judge in 1998. Taylor married the former Margaret Byers. They have three children—Marna, Leah, and Jocelyn. Judge Taylor announced his retirement, effective April 30, 2005.



# 10th Circuit Court of Appeals

Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Utah, Wyoming

This court sits primarily at Denver, Colorado; however, it is customary to hold at least one session annually in other cities in the circuit. Sessions may last as long as one week and are usually held every other month. ([www.ck10.uscourts.gov](http://www.ck10.uscourts.gov))

## Chief Circuit Judge

Deanell R. Tacha  
643 Massachusetts Street  
Lawrence, KS 66044-2292  
785/842-8556

Stephanie K. Seymour  
4-562 U. S. Courthouse  
Tulsa 74103-3877  
918/699-4745

Bobby R. Baldock  
PO Box 2388  
Roswell, NM 88202-2388  
505/625-2388

Wade Brorby  
PO Box 1028  
Cheyenne, WY 82003-1028  
307/772-2885

David M. Ebel  
Byron White U.S. Courthouse  
Denver, CO 80257  
303/844-3800

Paul. J. Kelly Jr.  
PO Box 10113  
Santa Fe, NM 87504-6113  
505/988-6541

Robert H. Henry  
2421 U.S. Courthouse  
200 NW 4th Street  
Oklahoma City, OK 73102  
405/609-5440

Mary Beck Briscoe  
645 Massachusetts, Suite 400  
Lawrence, KS 66044-2235  
785/843-4067

Michael W. McConnell  
125 S State Street, Suite 5402  
Salt Lake City, UT 84138  
801/524-5145

Stephen H. Anderson  
4201 Federal Building  
Salt Lake City, UT 84138-1102  
801/524-6950

Carlos F. Lucero  
Byron White U.S. Courthouse,  
Room 420  
Denver, CO 80257  
303/844-2200

Michael R. Murphy  
5438 Federal Building  
Salt Lake City, UT 84138-1181  
801/524-5955

John C. Porfilio  
Byron White U.S. Courthouse  
Denver, CO 80257  
303/844-6346

Monroe C. McKay  
Suite 6012, Federal Building  
Salt Lake City, UT 84138-1181  
801/524-5252

Robert McWilliams, Jr.  
Byron White U.S. Courthouse  
Denver, CO 80257  
303/844-3430

William J. Holloway, Jr.  
Federal Building  
Oklahoma City, OK 73101-1767  
405/609-5420

Harris Hartz  
333 Lomas Boulevard, NW, Suite 710  
Albuquerque, NM 87102  
505/348-2350

Terrence O'Brien  
PO Box 1288  
Cheyenne, WY 82003-1288  
307/432-5701

Timothy M. Tymkovich  
1823 Stout Street  
Denver, CO 80257  
303/844-3157

## Circuit Executive

Dave Tigue  
Byron White U.S. Courthouse  
Denver, CO 80257  
303/844-2067

Clerk—Patrick J. Fisher  
Byron White U.S. Courthouse  
Denver, CO 80257  
303/844-3157

# Courts of General Jurisdiction

## District Courts

Article VII: Section 7, 20:92.1

Judicial District	Administrative	Judicial District	Administrative
1	Northwestern	14	Tulsa-Pawnee
2	Northwestern	15	East Central
3	Southwestern	16	Southeastern
4	Northwestern	17	Southeastern
5	Southwestern	18	East Central
6	Southwestern	19	Southeastern
7	Oklahoma	20	South Central
8	North Central	21	South Central
9	North Central	22	South Central
10	Northeastern	23	North Central
11	Northeastern	24	East Central
12	Northeastern	25	Southeastern
13	Northeastern	26	Canadian

# Judges of the District Courts

## East Central Judicial Administrative District

Charles M. Humphreys III, Presiding Judge

### **15th Judicial District** (Adair, Cherokee, Muskogee, Sequoyah, Wagoner counties)

#### Division I—Wagoner and Cherokee counties

District Judge	G. Bruce Sewell
Associate District Judges:	
Cherokee County	Mark L. Dobbins
Wagoner County	Darrell G. Shepherd
Special Judge, Cherokee County	Saundra Crosslin
Special Judges, Wagoner County	F. David Nelson • Jeffrey Payton

#### Division II—Muskogee County

District Judges	Mike Norman • Thomas H. Alford
Associate District Judge	Norman D. Thygesen
Special Judges	Robin Watt Adair • A. Carl Robinson

#### Division III—Adair and Sequoyah counties

District Judge	John C. Garrett
Associate District Judges	
Adair County	L. Elizabeth Brown
Sequoyah County	A. J. Henshaw Jr.
Special Judge, Sequoyah County	Dennis M. Sprouse

### **18th Judicial District** (McIntosh and Pittsburg counties)

District Judge	Thomas Bartheld
Associate District Judges—	
McIntosh County	Gene F. Mowery
Pittsburg County	vacant
Special Judge, Pittsburg County	Jim D. Bland

### **24th Judicial District** (Creek, Okfuskee, and Okmulgee counties)

#### Division I—Creek County

District Judges	Douglas W. Golden • Joe Sam Vassar
Associate District Judge	April Sellers White
Special Judges	Richard Woolery • Russell C. Miller

#### Division II—Okfuskee County

District Judge	Lawrence W. Parish
Associate District Judge	David N. Martin

#### Division III—Okmulgee County

District Judges	John Maley • Charles M. Humphrey III
Associate District Judge	H. Michael Claver
Special Judge	Duane A. Woodliff

# Judges of the District Courts

## North Central Judicial Administrative District

Paul Vassar, Presiding Judge

### 8th Judicial District (Kay and Noble counties)

District Judge	D.W. Boyd
Associate District Judges—	
Kay County	Leslie D. Page
Noble County	Danny G. Allen
Special Judges, Kay County	Douglas C. Revard • Robert H. Galbraith

### 9th Judicial District (Logan and Payne counties)

District Judge	Donald L. Worthington
Associate District Judges—	
Logan County	Larry R. Brooks
Payne County	Robert M. Murphy Jr.
Special Judge, Logan County	William W. Wheeler
Special Judges, Payne County	Phillip C. Corley Michael Stano

### 23rd Judicial District (Lincoln and Pottawatomie counties)

District Judges	Douglas L. Combs
Paul Vassar	
Associate District Judges—	
Lincoln County	Craig Key
Pottawatomie County	John D. Gardner
Special Judge, Pottawatomie County	David Cawthon

## Northeastern Judicial Administrative District

J. R. Pearman, Presiding Judge

### 10th Judicial District (Osage County)

District Judge	James R. Pearman
Associate District Judge	Bruce David Gambill
Special Judge	John S. Boggs

### 11th Judicial District (Nowata and Washington counties)

District Judge	Janice P. Dreiling
Associate District Judges—	
Nowata County	Carl G. Gibson
Washington County	Curtis L. DeLapp
Special Judge, Washington County	Kyra K. Williams

### 12th Judicial District (Craig, Mayes, and Rogers counties)

District Judges	James D. Goodpaster • Dynda R. Post
Associate District Judges—	
Craig County	Gary L. Maxey
Mayes County	Terry H. McBride
Rogers County	J. Dwayne Steidley
Special Judge, Mayes County	Gary J. Dean
Special Judges, Rogers County	Sheila A. Condren • L. Joe Smith • Erin L. Oqium

## Judges of the District Courts

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### 13th Judicial District (Delaware and Ottawa counties)

District Judge	Robert G. Haney
Associate District Judges—	
Delaware County	Barry V. Denney
Ottawa County	Robert E. Reavis II
Special Judge, Delaware County	Alicia Littlefield
Special Judge, Ottawa County	William E. Culver

### Northwestern Judicial Administrative District

Charles L. Goodwin, Presiding Judge

### 1st Judicial District (Beaver, Cimarron, Harper, and Texas counties)

District Judge	Greg A. Zigler
Associate District Judges—	
Beaver County	Gerald H. Riffe
Cimarron County	Ronald L. Kincannon
Harper County	Wayne Olmstead
Texas County	Ryan D. Reddick

### 2nd Judicial District (Beckham, Custer, Ellis, Roger Mills, and Washita counties)

District Judge	Charles L. Goodwin
Associate District Judges—	
Beckham County	Floyd Douglas Haught
Custer County	Jacqueline P. Duncan
Ellis County	Joe L. Jackson
Roger Mills County	Gale F. Smith
Washita County	Ellis Cabaniss
Special Judge, Custer County	Jill Carpenter Weedon

### 4th Judicial District

(Alfalfa, Blaine, Dewey, Garfield, Grant, Kingfisher, Major, Woods, and Woodward counties)

#### Division I—Alfalfa, Dewey, Major, Woods, and Woodward counties

District Judge	Ray Dean Linder
Associate District Judges—	
Alfalfa County	Loren E. Angle
Dewey County	Robert W. Collier
Major County	N. Vince Barefoot
Woods County	Mickey J. Hadwiger
Woodward County	Joseph P. Marak Jr.

#### Division II—Blaine, Garfield, Grant, and Kingfisher counties

District Judges	Ronald G. Franklin • John W. Michael
Associate District Judges—	
Blaine County	Mark A. Moore
Garfield County	Richard McBee Perry
Grant County	Jack Hammontree
Kingfisher County	M. Susie Pritchett
Special Judges, Garfield County	Norman L. Gray • J. Bruce Harvey

# Judges of the District Courts

## Oklahoma Judicial Administrative District

Noma Gurich, Presiding Judge

### 7th Judicial District (Oklahoma County)

District Judges:

Jerry D. Bass	David Harbour
Tammy Bass-Jones	Daniel L. Owens
Virgil Charles Black	Patricia G. Parrish
Susan P. Caswell	Carolyn R. Ricks
Bryan C. Dixon	Vicki L. Robertson
Ray C. Elliott	Barbara G. Swinton
Twyla Mason-Gray	
Noma D. Gurich	

Associate District Judge:

Nan J. Patton

Special Judges:

Stephen Alcorn	Larry A. Jones
James B. Croy	Roma M. McElwee
Donald Deason	James H. Paddleford
D. Fred Doak	Gregory J. Ryan
Russell D. Hall	Larry Shaw
Lisa K. Hammond	Roger H. Stuart
Charles G. Hill	Brian H. Upp
Carol A. Hubbard	Geary L. Walk
Charles G. Humble	Allen J. Welch Jr.
Glenn M. Jones	

## Canadian Judicial Administrative District

Noma Gurich, Presiding Judge

### 26th Judicial District (Canadian County)

District Judge	Edward C. Cunningham
Associate District Judge	Gary E. Miller
Special Judges	Gary D. McCurdy • John Louis Wolking • Robert E. Davis

## South Central Judicial Administrative District

Tom S. Landrith, Presiding Judge

### 20th Judicial District (Carter, Johnston, Love, Marshall, and Murray counties)

Division I—Carter County

District Judge	Thomas S. Walker
Associate District Judge	Lee Card
Special Judge	Charles G. Tate

Division II—Johnston, Love, Marshall, and Murray counties

District Judge	John H. Scaggs
Associate District Judges:	
Johnston County	Robert M. Highsmith
Love County	Charles E. Roberts
Marshall County	Richard A. Miller
Murray County	Timothy K. Colbert

## Judges of the District Courts

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### 21st Judicial District (Cleveland, Garvin, and McClain counties)

#### Division I—Cleveland County

District Judges	William C. Hetherington Jr. • Tom Lucas • Lori Walkley
Associate District Judge	Stephen W. Bonner
Special Judges	Janet A. Foss • Reginald D. Gaston Jequita H. Napoli • Rodney D. Ring

#### Division II—Garvin and McClain counties

District Judge	Candace Blalock
Associate District Judges:	
Garvin County	John A. Blake
McClain County	Noah Howard Ewing Jr.
Special Judge, Garvin County	Virgil R. Tipton
Special Judge, McClain County	Gary D. Barger

### 22nd Judicial District (Hughes, Pontotoc, and Seminole counties)

#### Division I—Pontotoc County

District Judge	Tom S. Landrith
Associate District Judge	Martha K. Kilgore
Special Judge	John David Miller

#### Division II—Seminole County

District Judges	George W. Butner • Gary Snow
Associate District Judge	Lee G. Stilwell
Special Judge	Joseph Wrigley

#### Division III—Hughes County

District Judge	Vacant
Associate District Judge	Greggory M. Smith

## Southeastern Judicial Administrative District

J. Douglas Gabbard II, Presiding Judge

### 16th Judicial District (Haskell, Latimer, and LeFlore counties)

District Judge	Danita Engleman Williams
Associate District Judges:	
Haskell County	John N. Henderson
Latimer County	Bill D. Welch
LeFlore County	Ted A. Knight
Special Judge, LeFlore County	Farley W. Ward

### 17th Judicial District (Choctaw, McCurtain, and Pushmataha counties)

District Judge	Willard Driesel
Associate District Judges:	
Choctaw County	Don Ed Payne
McCurtain County	Michael D. DeBerry
Pushmataha County	Lowell Burgess Jr.
Special Judges, McCurtain County	John W. Dewitt • Gary L. Brock

### 19th Judicial District (Bryan County)

District Judge	Farrell M. Hatch
Associate District Judge	Rocky L. Powers



# Judges of the District Courts

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Special Judge

Trace C. Sherrill

## 25th Judicial District (Atoka and Coal counties)

District Judge

J. Douglas Gabbard II

Associate District Judges:

Atoka County

Neal E. Merriott

Coal County

Richard Branam

## Southwestern Judicial Administrative District

George W. Lindley, Presiding Judge

## 3rd Judicial District (Greer, Harmon, Jackson, Kiowa, and Tillman counties)

District Judge

Richard Darby

Associate District Judges:

Greer County

Danny R. Deaver • Clearles L. Schwabe

Harmon County

W. Mike Warren

Jackson County

Clark E. Huey

Kiowa County

Norman L. Russell

Tillman County

David A. Barnett

Special Judge, Jackson County

C. Suzanne Mollison

## 5th Judicial District (Comanche, Cotton, Jefferson, and Stephens counties)

Division I—Comanche and Cotton counties

District Judges

David B. Lewis • Charles Allen McCall Jr.

Keith Byron Aycock • Mark Randall Smith

Associate District Judges:

Comanche County

C. William Stratton

Cotton County

Leo A. Watson Jr.

Special Judges, Comanche County

Kenny D. Harris • Taylor C. Stein

Division II—Jefferson and Stephens counties

District Judge

George W. Lindley

Associate District Judges:

Jefferson County

Jon Tom Staton

Stephens County

Joe H. Enos

Special Judge, Stephens County

William B. Buxton

## 6th Judicial District (Caddo and Grady counties)

District Judge

Richard G. Van Dyck

Associate District Judges:

Caddo County

S. Wyatt Hill

Grady County

John E. Herndon

Special Judge, Grady County

Timothy A. Brauer

Special Judge, Caddo County

John E. Herndon

## Judges of the District Courts

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### Tulsa-Pawnee Judicial Administrative District

David L. Peterson, Presiding Judge

#### **14th Judicial District** (Tulsa and Pawnee counties)

District Judges:

Sharron M. Bubenik  
Doris L. Fransein  
Gregory K. Frizzell  
J. Michael Gasset  
Tom C. Gillert  
Jesse S. Harris  
Gordon D. McAllister Jr.  
Linda G. Morrissey  
Rebecca Nightingale  
David L. Peterson  
Jefferson D. Sellers  
Ronald L. Shaffer  
Deborah C. Shallcross  
P. Thomas Thornbrugh

Associate District Judges:

Tulsa County

Caroline Wall

Pawnee County

Matthew D. Henry

Special Judges:

Mark Barcus  
Terry Bitting  
Carlos Chappelle  
Daman Cantrell  
Darlene Crutchfield  
Kyle B. Haskins  
Russell P. Hass  
Edward James Hicks III  
Charles Hogshead  
Allen Klein  
William LaFortune  
Gordon D. McAllister Jr.  
Millie Otey  
Robert Perugino  
Clancy C. Smith  
David Youll  
Clifford J. Smith  
Sarah Day Smith  
Michael Zacharias

# Court on the Judiciary

Article VII, Section 1; Article VII, Section A:2

## Appellate Division

Name	Designated By
Tom Colbert	Oklahoma Supreme Court
Steven W. Taylor	Oklahoma Supreme Court
Charles S. Chapel	Court of Criminal Appeals
Betty Outhier Williams	Oklahoma Bar Association
Edward Cunningham	Secretary of State
Bryan C. Dixon	Secretary of State
J. Douglas Gabbard	Secretary of State
John W. Michael	Secretary of State
Jane Wiseman	Secretary of State

## Trial Division

Name	Designated By
Jim F. Gassaway	Oklahoma Bar Association
Virgil Black	Secretary of State
Charles Humphrey	Secretary of State
Tom S. Landrith	Secretary of State
John Scaggs	Secretary of State
Jefferson D. Sellers	Secretary of State
Deborah Shallcross	Secretary of State
Mark Smith	Secretary of State
Thomas S. Walker	Secretary of State

**Administrative Office**—1915 N Stiles, Suite 305, Oklahoma City, OK 73105 • 405/521-2450. Michael Richie, Clerk of the Supreme Court, Clerk of the Court on the Judiciary.

## Judges of the Court of Tax Review

(Statutory re-creation of the Court of Tax Review can be found in 68 O.S. Supp 1998, Sec. 3024)

**History and Function**—The Court of Tax Review is vested with jurisdiction to hear complaints relating to ad valorem taxation. Actions may be brought by—railroad and public service corporations as to the valuation of property by the State Board of Equalization; a district attorney, upon direction of the Board of County Commissioners as to the intra-county or inter-county equalization; a county assessor as to the orders of the Oklahoma Tax Commission relating to non-compliance of the county assessor with the regulations governing the four-year revaluation cycle; a taxpayer as to the illegalities in ad valorem tax levies; a taxpayer as to illegalities in the budget for the taxing entities within the county; or through requests of the Oklahoma Tax Commission for reimbursement of costs resulting

from the supervision of the county in the validation of property due to noncompliance with the regulations governing the four-year revaluation cycle.

**Administrative Office**—1915 N Stiles, Suite 305, Oklahoma City, OK 73105 • 405/521-2450.

## Judges of the Worker’s Compensation Court

Article VII: Section 1; 85:1.2 (State Industrial Court)

Richard L. Blanchard, Presiding Judge—Tulsa

Susan Witt Conyers, Vice Presiding Judge—Oklahoma City

Mary A. Black	Oklahoma City	Tim Leonard	Oklahoma City
Ellen C. Edwards	Tulsa	Richard G. Mason	Oklahoma City
Cherri Farrar	Oklahoma City	Gene Prigmore	Oklahoma City
Kenton W. Fulton	Tulsa	Jerry L. Salyer	Oklahoma City

**History and Function**—The Worker’s Compensation Court, a statutory agency created in 1951 as the State Industrial Commission, was changed in composition and name, by statute, to be effective July 1, 1978. The court is responsible for adjudicating workmen’s compensation claims and consists of nine judges, serving six-year terms. If a vacancy occurs on the court prior to the expiration of a term, the governor appoints a successor. In making appointments, the governor relies upon the recommendation of the Judicial Nominating Commission. Awards or decisions of the court are final and conclusive unless appealed to the Oklahoma Supreme Court within twenty days.

**Administration**—1915 N Stiles, Oklahoma City, OK 73105; 405/522-8600. Marcia Davis, Administrator; Mary Scott, Assistant Administrator; Robert L. Tharp, Court Clerk.

**Personnel**—92 non-merit, unclassified employees.

## Assembly of Presiding Judges

(By order of the Supreme Court)

Jud. Admin.	Dist.	Presiding Judge	Courthouse
Southwestern	3, 5 & 6	George W. Lindley	Stephens County
Northwestern	1, 2 & 4	Charles L. Goodwin	Custer County
Northeastern	10, 11, 12 & 13	J.R. Pearman	Osage County
Southeastern	16, 17, 19 & 25	J. Douglas Gabbard II	Atoka County
Okla. & Canadian	7 & 26	Noma Gurich	Oklahoma County
South Central	20, 21 & 22	Tom S. Landrith	Pontotoc County
Tulsa-Pawnee	14	David L. Peterson	Tulsa County
East Central	15, 18 & 24	Charles M. Humphrey III	Okmulgee County
North Central	8, 9 & 23	Paul Vassar	Lincoln County

**History and Function**—By order of the Oklahoma Supreme Court, on and after January 9, 1969, all district and associate district judges selected for service in courts, sitting

within a statutorily designated judicial administrative district (as prescribed by 20 O.S. Supp. 1968 [S] 22), assemble to select a district judge as presiding judge of their respective administrative district. Subject only to the rules, orders, and directives of the Oklahoma Supreme Court or the chief justice, the presiding judge shall have general administrative authority and supervision over all courts within the district and over all judicial personnel and court officials serving in the district; this authority shall include, but not be limited to, temporary intra-district assignment of any judge or court official to service or duty with a court other than that for which he was selected or to which he was originally assigned. The Administrative Office of the Courts assists the Assembly of Presiding Judges in administrative matters.

**Administration**—Administrative Office of the Courts, 1915 N Stiles, Suite 305, Oklahoma City, OK 73105 • 405/521-2450.

## Judicial Nominating Commission

Article VII, Section B:3

Louis Levy, Chairman	Tulsa	James Dunn	Tulsa
Glenn A. Devoll	Enid	Richard Dunning	Oklahoma City
Robert C. Margo	Oklahoma City	Fred Pitch	Lawton
Pat Phelps	Durant	Laura Gallagher	Ardmore
Deborah Reheard	Eufala	Robert Yaffe	Muskogee
William E. Woodson	Norman	Loise Butler Washington	McAlester
Vacant			

**History and Function**—Established as part of the Judicial Department, the commission consists of thirteen members: six members appointed by the governor, one from each of the six congressional districts as they existed before the 2002 election; six members elected from and by the membership of the Oklahoma Bar Association; and one member at large who shall not have been admitted to the practice of law in any state, to be selected by no fewer than eight members of the commission. The commission has jurisdiction to determine whether the qualifications of nominees for judicial office have been met and to determine the existence of vacancies on the commission.

**Administration**—1915 N Stiles, Suite 305, Oklahoma City, OK 73105 • 405/521-2450. FAX: (405)521-6815

# Dispute Resolution Advisory Board

Article 12, Section 1803.1

James M. Cox, Chairman	Midwest City	Michael T. Oakley	Oklahoma City
Jane F. Wheeler, Vice-Chair	Oklahoma City	Ted Roberts	Norman
Jay Scott Brown	Shawnee	Cathy Stocker	Enid
M. Ellen Feaver	Norman	Ralph Triplett Jr.	Woodward
Stan Foster	Oklahoma City	Terry Winn	Chickasha
Carol M. Hansen	Oklahoma City	Thornton Wright Jr.	Oklahoma City
Bobbie Burbridge Lane	Oklahoma City	Lisa Yates	Oklahoma City
June W. Morgan	Norman		

**History and Function**—The Oklahoma Dispute Resolution System began in November 1996 and focuses on mediation services. The statutory purpose is to provide Oklahomans a fast, economical way to solve conflicts. The Early Settlement service has offices throughout the state to handle conflicts between neighbors, family members, landlords and tenants, customers and merchants, employers and employees, roommates, farmers/lenders, or victims/offenders. All mediators are trained and must be certified by the court administrator. Mediators do not order decisions, but function as neutral facilitators, encouraging communication and creative problem solving. Proceedings are voluntary, confidential and may not be used in any court litigation.

**Administration**—Sue D. Tate, Program Director; Howard W. Conyers, ex officio • Administrative Office of the Courts, 1915 N Stiles, Suite 305, Oklahoma City, OK 73105 • 405/521-2450.

## Council on Judicial Complaints

Article 20, Section 1652

**History and Function**—Created by the 1974 Oklahoma Legislature as the investigatory body for the Court on the Judiciary, the council is empowered to investigate all complaints made against a member of the judiciary. The council may dismiss a complaint or recommend that the matter be made the subject of proceedings before the Court on the Judiciary. The council consists of three members. They serve staggered five-year terms and may serve no more than two terms on the council.

**Council Members**—Jeffery Jenson, chair; Lloyd E. Cole, Jr., vice chair; and Gary Clark, member-at-large.

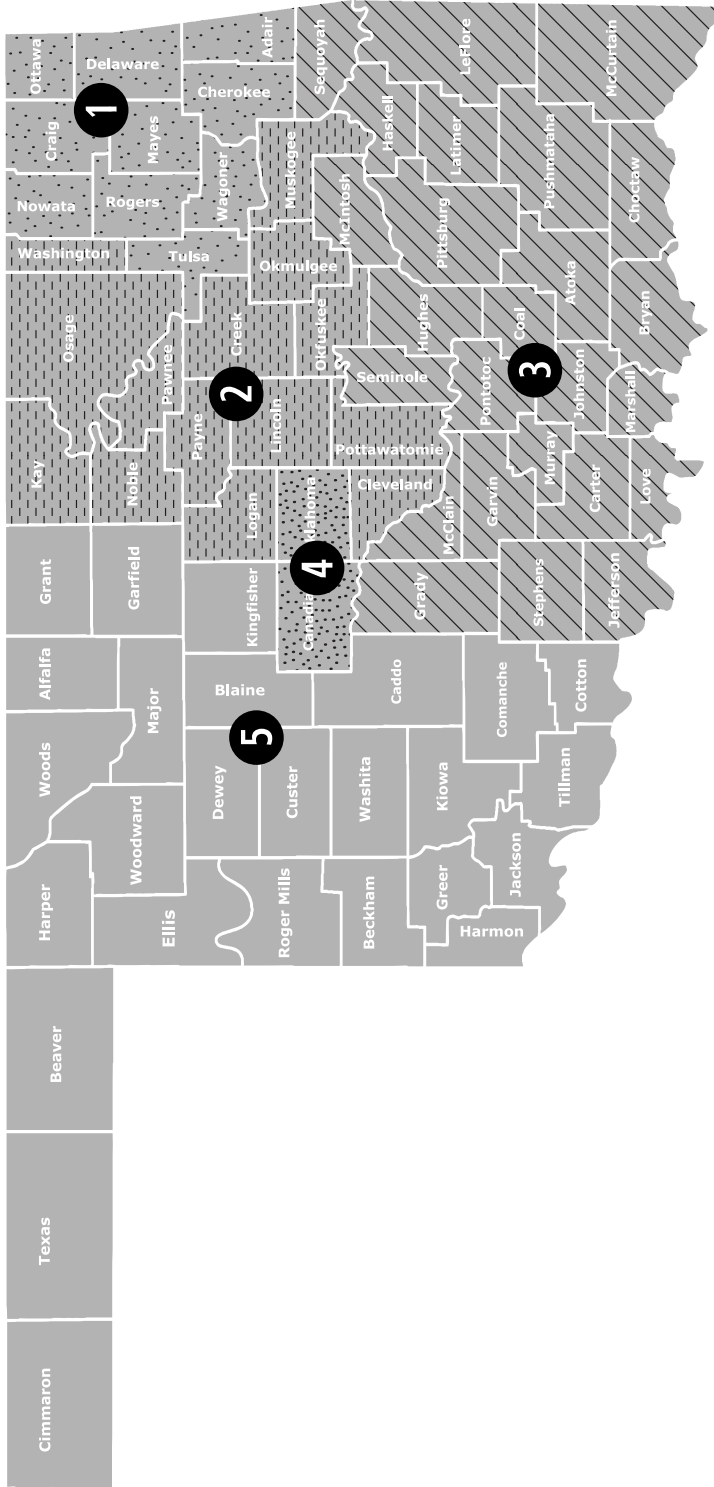
**Administration**—Eric Mitts, Director; Laurie Robinson, Principal Assistant; J. Duke Logan, General Counsel • 1901 N Lincoln Boulevard, Oklahoma City, OK 73105 • 405/522-4800, FAX 405/522-4752.

# District Attorneys

For more information about district attorneys and their assistants, contact the District Attorneys Council, 421 NW 13th Street, Suite 290, Oklahoma City, OK 73103. Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. 405/264-5000. Personnel: 1200 non-merit, unclassified employees. Suzanne McClain Atwood, Executive Coordinator; Trent H. Baggett, Assistant Executive Coordinator.

Dist.	Name	Address	City	Zip	Telephone	Fax
1	Mike Boring (R)	319 N. Main	Guymon	73942	580/338-3730	580/338-0528
2	Dennis Smith (D)	P.O. Box 36	Arapaho	73620	580/323-3232	580/323-9377
3	John M. Wampler (D)	101 N. Main	Altus	73521	580/482-5334	580/482-5346
4	Cathy Stocker (R)	114 W. Broadway	Enid	73701	580/233-1311	580/233-7065
5	Robert Schulte (D)	315 SW 5th St., Rm. 502	Lawton	73501	580/585-4444	580/585-4435
6	Robert Gene Christian (D)	101 S. 11th Street	Duncan	73533	580/255-8726	580/255-1889
7	Wes Lane (R)	320 Robt. S. Kerr, 5 <sup>th</sup> Floor	Okla. City	73102	405/713-1600	405/235-1567
8	Mark Gibson (R)	201 S. Main	Newkirk	74647	580/362-2571	580/362-2335
9	Robert L. Hudson (R)	606 S. Husband, Rm. 213	Stillwater	74074	405/372-4883	405/372-4590
10	Larry D. Stuart (D)	628 ½ Kihakah, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor	Pawhuska	74056	918/287-1510	918/287-3137
11	Frederick "Rick" Esser (R)	400 S. Johnstone	Bartlesville	74003	918/337-2860	918/337-2896
12	Ernest "Gene" Haynes (R)	219 S. Missouri	Claremore	74017	918/341-3164	918/341-3693
13	Eddie Wyant (D)	PO Box 528	Jay	74346	918/253-4217	918/253-4183
14	Timothy Harris (R)	500 S. Denver, Suite 900	Tulsa	74103	918/596-4805	918/596-4830
15	John David Luton (D)	220 State Street	Muskogee	74401	918/682-3374	918/687-3347
16	Robert A. Wallace (D)	P.O. Box 880	Poteau	74953	918/647-2245	918/647-3209
17	Virginia Sanders (D)	108 N. Central	Idabel	74745	580/286-7611	580/286-7613
18	Chris Wilson (D)	115 E. Carl Albert Pkwy.	McAlester	74501	918/423-1324	918/423-8575
19	Mark Campbell (D)	117 N. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Durant	74701	580/924-4032	580/924-3596
20	Mitch Sperry (D)	20 "B" Street, SW, Ste. 202	Ardmore	73401	580/223-9674	580/221-5504
21	Tim D. Kuykendall (R)	201 S. Jones, Suite 210	Norman	73069	405/321-8268	405/360-7840
22	William Peterson (D)	P.O. Box 146	Ada	74821	580/332-0341	580/332-7393
23	Richard Smothermon (D)	325 N. Broadway	Shawnee	74801	405/275-6800	405/275-3575
24	Max Cook (R)	PO Box 1006	Sapulpa	74067	918/224-3921	918/227-6346
25	Tom Giulioli (D)	314 W. 7th Street	Okmulgee	74447	918/756-0794	918/756-4712
26	Ray Don Jackson (D)	1600 Main Street	Woodward	73801	580/256-8616	580/256-3959
27	Richard Gray (D)	213 W. Delaware	Tablequah	74464	918/456-6173	918/456-1885

# Criminal Appeals Judicial Districts









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While playing for the Tulsa Golden Hurricane in 1974 and '75, outstanding receiver **Steve Largent** led the nation in touchdown receptions with 14 touchdowns each year. Largent completed his college career with 136 receptions for 2,385 yards and 32 touchdowns. His best season was in 1975—with 51 receptions for 1,000 yards. From 1976 to 1989, Largent—a Pro Football Hall of Famer—had a 14-season, 200-game career with the Seattle Seahawks. Following his football career, Steve Largent served Oklahoma's District 1 in the U.S. House of Representatives (1994–2001). He resigned for an unsuccessful run for governor in 2002.