

THE POINT

GREATER
OKLAHOMA CITY
CHAMBER

December 2017

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County Takes Major Step in Criminal Justice Reform

Criminal justice reform efforts in Oklahoma County took a significant step forward last month with the first meeting of the new Criminal Justice Advisory Council, an interlocal government council designed to institutionalize cooperation and planning for the criminal justice system in Oklahoma County.

The Council was established following a recommendation of the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber's Criminal Justice Reform Task Force and was called out as the most critical step for reform.

"Instituting a coordinating body such as this will formalize our cooperative effort and set our county on a permanent path for a more effective and efficient

system," said Clay Bennett, who chaired the Chamber's task force and was elected to serve as the first chair of the new council.

The stated goals of the Council are to study and evaluate the criminal justice system; collect and analyze data related to the criminal justice system; promote increased efficiency and effectiveness of the criminal justice system; recommend policies and programs to reduce recidivism, reduce jail population, and increase community and public safety; recommend policies and practices to control the costs of criminal justice system and incarceration; and increase community support for the criminal justice system.

Continued on page 5

Chamber's 2018 Board of Directors Announced



Rhonda Hooper, Jordan Advertising, will continue to serve as Chamber chair in 2018. Percy Kirk, Cox Communications, will serve as Chamber chair-elect.

The nominating committee and the board of directors of the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber are pleased to announce the 2018 officers and members of the board of directors that were approved in November 2017.

Rhonda Hooper, Jordan Advertising, will continue to serve in her second year as Chamber chair. Percy Kirk, Cox Communications, will serve as Chamber chair-elect. Other officers include David E. Rainbolt, BancFirst Corporation, immediate past chair; John Hart, Continental Resources, treasurer; Bruce Lawrence, INTEGRIS Health, corporate secretary; and Roy H. Williams, CCE, Greater Oklahoma City Chamber, president and CEO.

Additionally, the following program vice chairs will serve as officers in 2018: Natalie Shirley, Oklahoma State University-Oklahoma City, convention and visitor

Continued on page 8



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Leadership Notes

A kindred spirit in criminal justice reform

At our InterCity visit session with members of the criminal justice reform community in Columbus, Ohio, Melissa Pierson, deputy director of justice programs with the Franklin County Office of Justice Policy and Programs, called Oklahoma City and Columbus “sister cities” because of how much our journeys to criminal justice reform have in common.

Like Oklahoma City, Columbus was faced with the reality that an inefficient criminal justice system had a steep cost in its impact on families, the community, municipal budgets and the economy. Columbus’ approach to reform included building a new jail facility and lowering the number of people in its jail through common-sense reform. You can read more about their efforts on page 12 of this issue of *The POINT!*

While Columbus may be a few years ahead of Oklahoma City on the road to a better criminal justice system, last month our efforts gained momentum through the first official meeting of the Oklahoma County Criminal Justice Advisory Council. As the No. 1 recommendation in the report on our system compiled by the Vera Institute of Justice, it was a crucial first step toward lasting changes. I am grateful for peer cities like Columbus who are changing the narrative around criminal justice reform, and it is my hope that Oklahoma City will be a shining example for other cities who want to follow the same path.

Sincerely,

Roy H. Williams, CCE
Chamber CEO & President



Roy H. Williams, CCE
President & CEO

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THE POINT!

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THE OKLAHOMAN 

Clay Bennett Named Chair of Council (cont'd from page1)

The Council voted in its first meeting to establish subcommittees that would continue to work on recommendations made by the original task force with aims to reach these stated goals. Work over the past year has resulted in a reduction in the jail population from a peak of 2,700 to a current population below 1,900.

"We have made significant improvements in our pre-trial practices and in keeping many low-level offenders out of the jail entirely, but there is still more we can do," said Bennett. "These task forces will continue to work toward full implementation of the report recommendations. We will develop a strategic plan for the coming year and work to see them met."

An interlocal agreement between Oklahoma County, the City of Edmond, the City of Oklahoma City and the City of Midwest City formed the Council. Council membership includes: a member of the Board of Oklahoma County Commissioners, Ray Vaughn; the Presiding Judge of the Oklahoma County District Court, Tim Henderson; the Court Clerk of Oklahoma County, Rick Warren; the District Attorney of Oklahoma

County, David Prater; the Sheriff of Oklahoma County, PD Taylor; the Oklahoma County Public Defender, Bob Ravitz; the Commissioner of the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, Terri White; the City Manager of Oklahoma City, Jim Couch; the Presiding Judge of Oklahoma City Municipal Court, Philippa James; the Court Administrator of the City of Oklahoma City, LaShawn Thompson; the Chief of Police of Oklahoma City, Bill Citty; the City Manager of Edmond, Larry Stevens; the City Manager of Midwest City, Guy Henson; the President of the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber, Roy Williams; and an additional representative designated by the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber, Clay Bennett. There were also four community representatives that were designated by vote of the Council: Sue Ann Arnall, Pastor Theodis Manning, Dan Straughan and Tony Tyler.

To review the report of the task force, see a copy of the interlocal agreement and find other information about the process that led to the formation of the council, visit www.smartsafeokco.com.

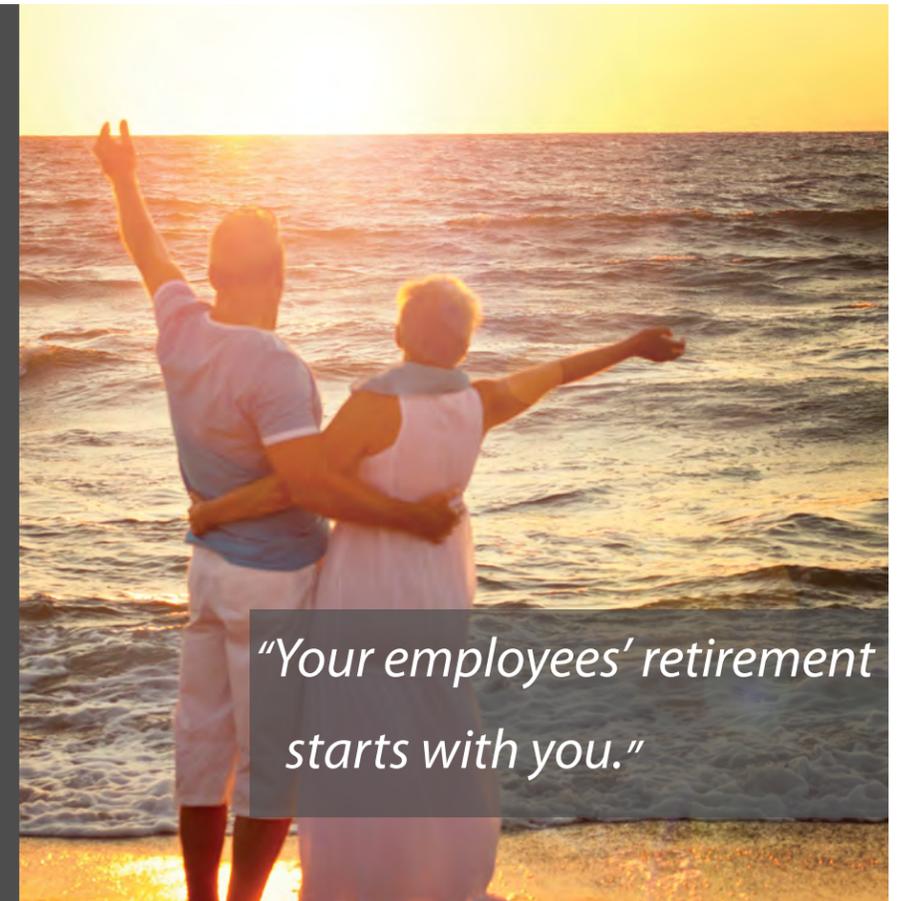
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UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec. 6

Chamber Forum

Time: 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Location: Sheraton Oklahoma City Downtown Hotel, 1 N Broadway Ave.
www.okcchamber.com/bricktown

Dec. 14

Annual Meeting

Time: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Location: Cox Convention Center, 1 Myriad Gardens
www.okcchamber.com/annual

Jan. 17

Chamber Forum

Time: 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Location: VAST, 50th Floor, Devon Tower, 333 W Sheridan Ave.
www.okcchamber.com/faa

Jan. 18

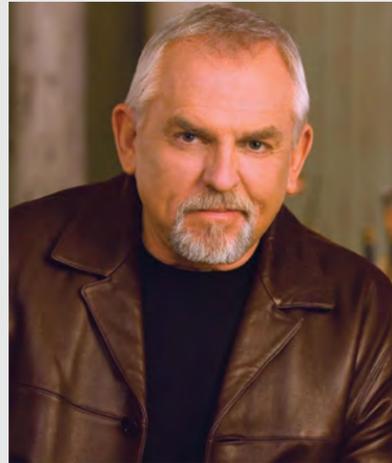
State of the City

Time: 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Location: Cox Convention Center, 1 Myriad Gardens
www.okcchamber.com/soc

Jan. 31

Legislative Breakfast

Time: 8 to 9:30 a.m.
Location: Cox Convention Center, 1 Myriad Gardens
www.okcchamber.com/legislativebreakfast



Hear from John Ratzenberger, the actor who portrayed Cliff Clavin on Cheers, as he discusses the importance of the manufacturing industry and skilled labor at the Chamber's Annual Meeting on Dec. 14.

John Ratzenberger to Keynote Chamber Annual Meeting

John Ratzenberger, who is most well-known for his portrayal of Cliff Clavin on Cheers, will bring his outspoken advocacy for American manufacturing and skilled labor to the Chamber's Annual Meeting on Thursday, Dec. 14, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Cox Convention Center, 1 Myriad Gardens. Ratzenberger will highlight the importance of skilled trades and training of Oklahoma City's next generation of skilled workers.

More than 1,200 local leaders will network and learn about current Chamber initiatives at this annual luncheon, where Chamber Chair Rhonda

Hooper, Jordan Advertising, will highlight the accomplishments of 2017.

Tables of ten are available for \$1,250, and individual tickets are \$75 for members and \$125 for nonmembers. Register online at www.okcchamber.com/annual.

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State of the City: Jan. 18

Hear Mayor Mick Cornett's last State of the City address as Oklahoma City mayor on Thursday, Jan. 18, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Cox Convention Center, 1 Myriad Gardens. More than 1,500 business leaders will attend to hear a dynamic speech from Mayor Cornett about where Oklahoma City is today and where it will be in the coming year.

The Chamber's key strategic objectives for 2018 will also be highlighted. Tickets are \$60 for Chamber members and \$100 for nonmembers. Table sponsorships seating 10 are available for \$1,300. Register online at www.okcchamber.com/soc.

Special thanks to Signature Sponsor The Professional Basketball Club, LLC - Oklahoma City Thunder, Host Sponsor Bank of Oklahoma and Signature Event Sponsors Central Liquor Company, Devon Energy Corporation, Enable Midstream Partners, Hobby Lobby and Wal-Mart District Office of Public Affairs.

Save the Date for Legislative Breakfast

Join Oklahoma City community leaders and members of the Oklahoma House and Senate at the Chamber's Legislative Breakfast on Wednesday, Jan. 31, from 8 to 9:30 a.m. at the Cox Convention Center, 1 Myriad Gardens. Speaker of the House Charles McCall, Democratic Minority Leader Steve Kouplun, Senate President Pro Tempore Mike Schulz and Democratic Minority Leader John Sparks will discuss issues that will impact the Oklahoma City economy and local businesses.

This annual event offers the perfect opportunity for Chamber members to meet area legislators and have a voice on the issues impacting the business community. The cost to attend is \$40 for members and \$60 for nonmembers. Register online at www.okcchamber.com/legislativebreakfast.

Special thanks to Signature Sponsor The Boeing Company and Host Sponsor Renaissance Oklahoma City Convention Center Hotel & Spa.

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2018 Board of Directors (cont'd from page 1)

development; Sean Trauschke, OGE Energy Corp., economic development; Teresa Rose Crook, Oklahoma City Community Foundation, education; David A. Hager, Devon Energy Corporation, Forward Oklahoma City; Bradley W. Krieger, Arvest Bank, government relations; Tom J. McDaniel, American Fidelity Foundation, MAPS development; Jenny Love Meyer, Love's Travel Stops and Country Stores, marketing and communications; Steve Hahn, AT&T Oklahoma, membership; Judy J. Hatfield, CCIM, Equity Commercial Realty II, LLC, military/aerospace; and Carl E. Edwards, Price Edwards & Company, innovation and bioscience. Clayton I. Bennett, Dorchester Capital, and J. Larry Nichols, Devon Energy Corporation, will serve as co-vice chairs of strategic planning.

The following individuals were selected to serve on the board beginning on Jan. 1, 2018, until Dec. 31, 2020: David R. Carpenter, American Fidelity Assurance Company; Jim R. Gebhart, FACHE, Mercy Hospital Oklahoma City; Steve Hahn, AT&T Oklahoma; David Harlow, BancFirst; Michael S. Laird, Crowe &

Dunlevy; Michael F. Lauderdale, McAfee & Taft; Tom J. McDaniel, American Fidelity Foundation; David J. Morgan, MidFirst Bank; Ford C. Price, Price Edwards & Company; Natalie Shirley, Oklahoma State University - Oklahoma City; Tony J. Tyler, Tyler Media; and G. Rainey Williams, Marco Capital Group ALP.

They will join the following members selected to serve in 2016 and 2017: James D. Bennett, SandRidge Energy, Inc.; Teresa Rose Crook, Oklahoma City Community Foundation; Bob Funk, Jr., Prodigal; David A. Hager, Devon Energy Corporation; John Hart, Continental Resources; Judy J. Hatfield, CCIM, Equity Commercial Realty II, LLC; Mark A. Helm, Dolese Bros. Co.; John D. Higginbotham, Bank of Oklahoma; Joe Hodges, SSM Health Care of Oklahoma; Percy Kirk, Cox Communications; Bradley W. Krieger, Arvest Bank; Bill Lance, The Chickasaw Nation; Bruce Lawrence, INTEGRIS Health; Jenny Love Meyer, Love's Travel Stops & Country Stores, Inc.; Ronald J. Norick, Norick Investment Company, LLC; Stephen M. Prescott, M.D., Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation; Christopher

P. Reen, The Oklahoman Media Company; Robert J. Ross, Inasmuch Foundation; Jason R. Sanders, MD, MBA, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center; William P. Schonacher, IBC Bank; W. Kent Shortridge, Oklahoma Natural Gas Company; Richard Tanenbaum, Gardner Tanenbaum Holdings; and Sean Trauschke, OGE Energy Corp. Mikeal M. Clayton, The Boeing Company, was selected to fill a term expiring on Dec. 31, 2018.

The following individuals were selected to serve one-year terms: Mark Beffort, Newmark Grubb Levy Strange Beffort; Dr. Don Betz, University of Central Oklahoma; Jill Castilla, Citizens Bank of Edmond; Steve Dixon, Tapstone Energy, LLC; Mohammad J. Farzaneh, Home Creations; Mark W. Funke, Bank SNB; Nathaniel Harding, Antioch Energy; David Hardy, UMB Bank; Doug Lawler, Chesapeake Energy Corporation; Xavier Neira, Manhattan Construction Company; Rodney J. Sailor, Enable Midstream Partners; and Claudia San Pedro, SONIC, America's Drive-In.

The past chairmen and life members are Clayton I. Bennett, Dorchester Capital; Richard H. Clements, Clements Food Company - Garden Club; Edward H.

Cook; Luke R. Corbett; Peter B. Delaney; William E. Durrett, American Fidelity Assurance Company; Carl E. Edwards, Price Edwards & Company; Robert A. Funk, Express Employment Professionals; Gerald L. Gamble, Gerald L. Gamble Co., Inc.; Fred J. Hall, Hall Capital, LLC; V. Burns Hargis, Oklahoma State University; Dan Hogan, Dan Hogan Properties; Stanley F. Hupfield, FACHE, INTEGRIS Health Family of Foundations; Dave Lopez, DL Dynamics; Edmund O. Martin, Ackerman McQueen, Inc.; Frank A. McPherson; J. Larry Nichols, Devon Energy Corporation; George Nigh; David E. Rainbolt, BancFirst Corporation; Lee Allan Smith, Oklahoma Events, LLC; David L. Thompson, InvesTrust Wealth Management; and William G. Thurman, M.D.

The ex-officio members serving on the 2018 Board include: Michelle Coppedge, Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center - FAA; Mayor Mick Cornett, City of Oklahoma City; Jim Couch, City of Oklahoma City; Aurora Lora, Oklahoma City Public Schools; and Meg Salyer, Accel Financial Staffing. The 2018 Chair of the Board of Oklahoma County Commissioners will be requested to serve when announced.



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Skirvin Christmas Day Buffet » 11a-2p*
\$49.95 adults
\$29.95 children ages 3-10 yrs
Live Entertainment

HOLIDAY LIGHTING CEREMONY
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12
Hotel Lobby
Complimentary Reception » 5-7 p
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HOLIDAY HIGH TEA
DECEMBER 2, 9, & 16
Park Avenue Grill
High Tea » 2:30-4p*
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A Picture of Oklahoma City in 1937

In 1937, the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber produced a publication celebrating the completion of Oklahoma City's new civic center. Just like today, the Oklahoma City of 1937 was a bustling center of commerce, retail and visitors. Read the excerpts below for a glimpse into what Oklahoma City was like 80 years ago.



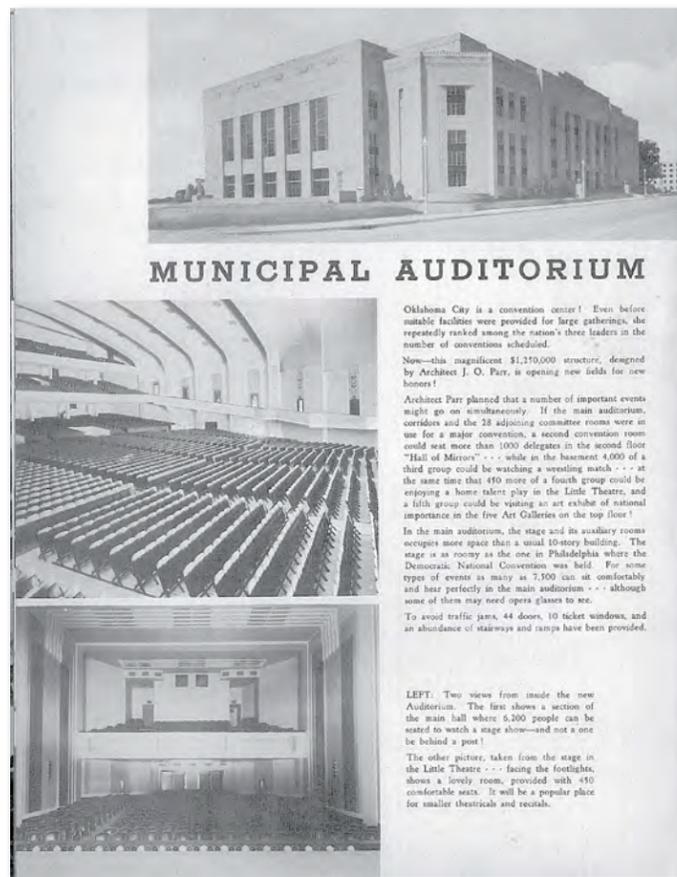
“As you know more (about Oklahoma City), your pride will grow more—you will feel the lure of this city of vitality. You will feel the freshness of this young and vigorous giant of the Southwest, will enjoy its cleanliness as symbolized in skyline towers unblackened by the soot

fog of older, industrial cities. This is made possible by unlimited supplies of natural gas. You are in a city whose skyline has changed with kaleidoscopic frequency unlike the static picture of older, settled communities which look backward rather than to the future.

“Your new city is one of drama, peopled by citizens who believe in their community, who centralize their energies for their community's sake through one of the nation's greatest Chambers of Commerce ... who celebrate their treasure of black gold, their strategic livestock market which has brought here a billion dollars in 25 years and other economic epochs with a glamorous spectacle and pageantry... a city which does not have its fiftieth birthday until 1939... a city which is attracting national interest as a convention, sports, agriculture, oil and business center... a city which is now rounding out the finishing touches of transforming a midtown railroad right-of-way into one of the most modern and complete civic centers of the nation.”

Oklahoma City's appeal as a visitor destination

“When the thousands of visitors are attracted to Oklahoma City's semi-centennial in 1939, few of them



will miss seeing the \$6,500,000 Civic Center which extends a block wide—from Harvey to Shartel Streets. It is located on land, formerly occupied by railroad tracks, which was purchased with part of the proceeds of a \$4,000,000 bond issue. There are four major units to this huge project—45 percent of which was financed by a Public Works Grant.” *Editor's note: the four units of the Civic Center project mentioned above were the Oklahoma County Courthouse, the Municipal Building, the City Jail and Central Heating Plant and the Municipal Auditorium, which is now known as the Oklahoma City Civic Center.*

“Oklahoma City is a convention center! Even before suitable facilities were provided for large gatherings, she repeatedly ranked among the nation's three leaders in the number of conventions scheduled.

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The Chamber in 1937



The Chamber's office facilities in the 1930s included a dining room that hosted weekly Friday Forums. A Chamber Friday Forum in 1946 is pictured above.

“The Chamber of Commerce Dining Room is the scene of many an important banquet and luncheon. Citizens of the state's capitol are famous for ‘getting together.’ They began it within 24 hours after the ‘run’ in 1889. In 30 days they had founded the present Chamber of Commerce.

“Newcomers and out-of-the-city visitors are always welcome to the Chamber's Friday Forum noon luncheons. And the Chamber offices on the 9th floor of the Commerce Exchange Building are at the service of anyone needing information about Oklahoma City.”

Oklahoma City as a retail center



“The Federal Census, early in 1936, reported 2,420 retail stores in Oklahoma City, doing a business exceeding \$72,000,000 annually! Their payrolls are more than \$8,662,00 a year—supporting about 10,000 families.

“These stores serve a tremendous trading territory—49 of Oklahoma's 79 counties, and 4 from the Texas Panhandle... a total population above 1,600,000. It is 125 miles to the nearest large city, Tulsa—220 miles to Dallas, 296 miles to Amarillo, 185 miles to Wichita.”

The Oklahoma City economy in 1937

“Someone has said—‘To make money, go where the money is!’

“At the close of business, December 31, 1936, the combined seven banks of Oklahoma City had on deposit \$107,929,00.00! Their combined resources exceeded 119 million dollars! During the year their combined debits were practically two billion dollars!

“Oklahoma City's annual income would be difficult to estimate. Oil alone involves an expenditure of hundreds of millions! The last government report showed retail sales for 1935 over 72 million! Service establishments nearly 4 million more. Building permits exceeded 8 million. Manufacturing 67 million. Wholesale sales over a quarter of a billion! Money is made in Oklahoma City!”

The publication includes information on individual businesses, area churches, homes and more. To read, visit www.okcchamber.com/okc1937.

Notes from Columbus – Criminal Justice Reform

The past two issues of The POINT! recapped lessons learned by attendees of the Chamber's recent InterCity Visit to Columbus, Ohio. Read on for more about criminal justice reform efforts in Columbus.

Oklahoma County is in the midst of a major overhaul of its criminal justice system, a journey that came as a response to the overcrowding of the Oklahoma County jail. Franklin County, the location of Columbus, has embraced criminal justice reform for similar reasons.

Franklin County started implementing a new criminal justice oversight structure in 2000 when the City of Columbus and Franklin County created a criminal justice planning board to streamline the governance of criminal justice reform in the area.

Because of their structure, they are legally able to serve in the stead of the state. They direct the application of both state and federal funding, including Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) funding, Violence Against Women Act funding, and Title II Juvenile Justice Grant funding. The criminal justice planning board is made up of many of the top leaders of public safety disciplines, and they serve one-year appointments – although, by the nature of their office, several individuals have served on the board for many consecutive years.

“Our criminal justice system is vast and we have a lot of elected officials at the table,” Melissa Pierson, deputy director of justice programs with the Franklin County Office of Justice Policy and Programs, said. “Our jobs bring everyone to the table, not to make decisions for anybody, but to find that common ground that works for everyone in the county. We found that a criminal justice planning board gave us the power to do that.”

During the national recession starting in 2007, the board was asked to do more with less funding and the Franklin County Commissioners started examining the financial cost of putting more people in jail. In response, they forecasted the jail's population growth over the next 25 years and wanted to determine how they could avoid having to build a new jail.

“Our mental health system, like those across the country, was fragmented. Our jail had become a mental health hospital,” Pierson said. “Instead of bringing people to the jail, we needed alternatives that we just didn't have at the time.”

After a thorough examination of their criminal justice system in Franklin County, the criminal justice planning board had a lot of data about who was in their jail, but no funding or political will to implement any changes.

In addition to jail and prison overcrowding, the data showed a 42 percent recidivism rate. The planning board had to think creatively about how to address those issues. In 2009, the group created the Franklin County Reentry Coalition to develop a strategic plan and pool resource available to help people coming out of the criminal justice system.

The coalition focused on removing barriers to people who are trying to find a job, get housing and become productive members of society. One key part of that is passing progressive legislation, such as “banning the box” where job applicants have to indicate if they have been arrested or convicted of a misdemeanor or felony.

“Ohio is one of the leaders in terms of legislative reforms and sentencing reforms,” said Pierson. “We have a little way to go but I think we've taken some really progressive steps.”

These positive changes led to Franklin County being selected by the Council of State Governments to participate in a behavioral health and justice demonstration program in 2013, which Pierson says was the catalyst that launched Franklin County into the next era of criminal justice reform.

“I have a feeling your Vera Institute project is going to do the same thing for you because your report's recommendations are very similar to ours and what they wanted us to do to improve our criminal justice system,” Pierson said.

The next step for Franklin County was to examine the data to create alternative and innovative ways to address

“Repetition does not establish validity. If you take nothing else from me, take that and work with it. It has done wonders for us.”

-Major Chad Johnson, Franklin County Sheriff's Office



the population of people who are churning in and out of the criminal justice system. Through that investigation, the group learned that there were 100,000 outstanding warrants for people failing to appear at municipal courts. They implemented a low-cost notification system to remind people via text message, an evidence-based response to people failing to report to court.

“Everything we do is driven by data – that is really, really important,” Pierson said. “Vision without data is just a hallucination.”

That's not to say their process has been without obstacles. Pierson said that their strict adherence to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) has created roadblocks for public safety officers who are trying to find alternatives to jail for the people that they pick up. Officers have no way to check a person's treatment provider, case manager or medical history when they respond to calls.

The paradigm shift required of individuals working within the system in the midst of these changes has also been a challenge. Molly Gauntner, chief probation officer of the Franklin County Municipal Court, came to Franklin County with the intent of starting a pre-trial services program at the municipal court.

“I tried to introduce the whole concept to our court of what risk and need mean in the criminal justice system,” Gauntner said. “That was a huge challenge because the courts had not had a pre-trial services program in municipal court since the late 1970s.”

The significant bail bondsman culture in Franklin County also played a role in the implementation of an evidence-based pre-trial assessment tool. The bail investigation officers use the tool and a typical bail

investigation report to assess the overall risk level of an individual, which is then presented to a judge.

All the changes made in the area have had a positive impact on the amount of money spent on the criminal justice system, but it was still necessary to build a new jail facility. Major Chad Johnson with the Franklin County Sheriff's office said that Franklin County's two existing jails were structurally deficient.

“Our current jails are linear, and you cannot sit on a single deputy post and see an inmate,” Thompson said. “They are not constructed or designed to really support corrections the way it is done in modern practices.”

The new jail, which will open in 2019, will be built in a direct-supervision model where incarcerated individuals will be within the sight of an unarmed deputy sitting in the middle of the cells. Studies show that this model results in less violence and more cooperation.

The first phase of construction will include 864 beds and the facility's mental health and medical services. The second phase will take the total number of beds to 2,400. When all three phases of construction are complete, the jail will have room for 3,000 individuals – but Thompson is sincerely hopeful that they don't have to complete the last phase.

Thompson, who is in charge of the new jail's design and construction, said that one motto has driven all of their criminal justice reform decisions.

“Repetition does not establish validity,” Thompson said. “If you take nothing else from me, take that and work with it. It has done wonders for us.”

For a full recap of the Chamber's trip, visit www.okcchamber.com/ICVnotes.

Forward Oklahoma City brings investment, jobs to OKC

The Chamber's Forward Oklahoma City program, now in its fifth cycle of programming specific to Oklahoma City's current business climate and long-term needs, is wrapping up another successful year of investing in Oklahoma City's future.

The Chamber set specific goals for Forward Oklahoma City V, which include diversifying the Oklahoma City economy, growing Oklahoma City's quality workforce, improving Oklahoma City's quality of life, growing Oklahoma City's corporate presence, strengthening Oklahoma City's business climate and advocating for regional transportation development.

Significant accomplishments of the 2017 Forward Oklahoma City efforts include:

- Work of the OKC Compact to provide reading and mental health resources for Oklahoma City Public Schools
- New nonstop air service by Frontier Airlines
- New-to-OKC companies expanding into the

market, including NTT Data, SkyWest, Amazon, Solaris Paper, and more

- Significant criminal justice reform progress, including the first meeting of the Oklahoma County Criminal Justice Advisory Council
- Continued work on strengthening the Oklahoma City innovation district
- The successful passage of the recent general obligation bond and sales tax elections that will invest \$1.2 billion in Oklahoma City

Through the end of November, Forward Oklahoma City has assisted with 2,939 announced jobs, \$128.7 million in announced payroll and \$221.9 million in announced capital investment. Since it was founded in 1995, Forward Oklahoma City has assisted in creating more than 100,000 jobs and \$6 billion in capital investment.

For more on FOKC, contact Kurt Foreman, Chamber executive vice president of economic development, at kforeman@okcchamber.com or 405-297-8945.

ENHANCED MEMBER BENEFITS COMING YOUR WAY IN 2018!

For more than 125 years, the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber has been the driving force behind the growth of the Oklahoma City region. As a member, you are an important part of that mission, and through your Chamber membership, we can accomplish much more together than we can alone. Your Chamber membership is the best investment you can make in the success of your businesses. Starting in 2018, the Chamber will launch new membership levels and member benefits that will help you reach more of your goals, whether it is through additional visibility and branding, more direct contact with other members, advocacy for your business or information to help your business grow.



New and enhanced benefits include:

- Subscription to the Chamber's new small-business e-newsletter launching in 2018 (starts at \$500 investment level)
- Access to the Chamber's new Business University webinar series launching in 2018 (starts at \$750 investment level)
- Additional listings on the Chamber's member directory (starts at \$1,500 investment level)
- Annual participation at a roundtable discussion with Chamber President & CEO Roy H. Williams (exclusive to the \$1,500 investment level)
- Premiere Grand Opening services (starts at \$3,000 investment level)
- Access to data concierge services (starts at \$5,000 investment level)
- An individual legislative consultation (starts at \$10,000 investment level)

In the next few issues of The POINT!, you will learn more about the new membership levels, enhanced benefits and ways to deepen your engagement with the Chamber.

Your investment in the Chamber is making a difference in Oklahoma City and in the success of your business. Make a bigger impact in both areas by increasing your membership level today!

**G R E A T E R
O K L A H O M A C I T Y
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For more information, contact Sunny Cearley, vice president of membership, at 405-297-8948 or scearley@okcchamber.com.

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Moore, OK 73160
www.amc.nextcare.com

Access Medical Centers
Medical Clinics
Ms. Jennifer Cramer 835-2771
3617 N.W. Expressway
Oklahoma City, OK 73112
www.amc.nextcare.com

Access Medical Centers
Medical Clinics
Ms. Kristi Trent 691-5208
11601 S. Western Ave.
Oklahoma City, OK 73170
www.amc.nextcare.com

Aerotek
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3600 NW 138th St., Suite 201
Oklahoma City, OK 73134-2504
www.aerotek.com

Allphase Real Estate, Inc.
Real Estate - Commercial
Real Estate - Rental Properties
Ms. Sue A. Jones 270-6450
4501 SE 29th St.
Del City, OK 73115-3315

Alzheimer's Association
Nonprofit / Service Agencies
Ms. Morgan Fitzgerald 319-0780
2123 N. Classen Blvd.
Oklahoma City, OK 73106-6003
www.alz.org

Arnie's Golf Carts
Golf Cars & Carts
Mr. John Arnold 749-2221
108 NW 122nd St., Suite A
Oklahoma City, OK 73114-7213
www.arniesgolfcarts.com

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Arnold Outdoor, Inc.
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Ms. Jennie Bruning 641-3711
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Oklahoma City, OK 73118
www.arnoldoutdoor.com

Autumn Leaves of Edmond
Assisted Living / Nursing Homes
Ms. Denise Diaz 341-1450
1001 S. Bryant Ave.
Edmond, OK 73034
www.autumnleaves.com

Autumn Leaves of SW Oklahoma City
Assisted Living / Nursing Homes
Ms. Lana Redus 276-4193
2232 SW 104th St.
Oklahoma City, OK 73159
www.autumnleaves.com

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Mr. Mike Thompson 278-8160
1100 N. Broadway Ave., Suite 200
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www.wfg.com

Members Upgrade Their Support of the Chamber

Through increased financial support and attendance at board meetings, Board of Advisor and Lead Investor companies play a key role in the Chamber. The following member company recently increased their investment, demonstrating strong support of the Chamber's efforts to drive the region's economy.

To increase your investment, contact the membership division of the Chamber at 297-8949 or info@okchamber.com.

Board of Advisors

Bronze

Amshot
Information Technology
Mr. Michael C. Thomas 418-6282
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Oklahoma City, OK 73102-3404
www.amshot.com

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GRAND OPENINGS

Congratulations to these Chamber members on their recent Grand Openings! All Chamber members are welcome to attend Grand Openings. To view more photos, see the schedule of upcoming Grand Openings or subscribe to the Grand Openings calendar, visit www.okcchamber.com/grandopenings.



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15124 Lleyton's Court, Suite 104
Edmond, OK 73134



MCM Insurance, LLC
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Edmond, OK 73013



LifeShare Foundation
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Oklahoma City, OK 73132



Service King
6501 W. Reno Ave.
Oklahoma City, OK 73127



PDQ
14215 N. Pennsylvania Ave.
Oklahoma City, OK 73134



Professional Engineering Consultants, P.A.
10921 S. Western Ave., Suite 100
Oklahoma City, OK 73170



Raising Canes Chicken Fingers
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Oklahoma City, OK 73112



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Oklahoma City, OK 73118



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Oklahoma City, OK 73105-7936



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ECONOMIC INDICATORS

Oklahoma City Ranks Among Top 10 U.S. Metros for Millennials

- Oklahoma City metro ranks eighth for best U.S. metro for Millennials.
- Apartment List graded the 75 top U.S. metros in three major categories: jobs, affordability and livability.
- Oklahoma City had the sixth-best affordability score among all graded metros.
- Apartment List's analysis claims that few metros offer the ideal mix of a strong job market, affordable rent and home prices and high livability scores.

Rank	Metro	Overall Grade	Job Score	Affordability Score	Livability Score
1	Pittsburgh, PA	A+	69	94	53
2	Provo, UT	A+	69	62	84
3	Madison, WI	A+	79	50	81
4	San Antonio, TX	A+	59	57	85
5	Columbus, OH	A+	55	76	66
6	Charleston, SC	A+	66	34	96
7	Omaha, NE	A+	69	83	43
8	Oklahoma City, OK	A+	71	90	34
9	Houston, TX	A+	76	59	55
10	Minneapolis, MN	A	67	51	73

Source: Apartmentlist.com; 2017. A score of 100 is most favorable.

For comprehensive Economic Indicators and Regional Data, please visit your Greater Oklahoma City Chamber Economic Development Division at www.greateroklahomacity.com/economicindicators or contact Eric Long, Research Economist – (405)297-8976; elong@okcchamber.com

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Today's Surveillance Systems Offer Business Benefits That Go Beyond Security.

by Steve Westerman, Director of Product and Marketing, Cox Business

When you think of surveillance systems, what probably comes to mind is the value they bring in protecting and safeguarding your business. It's true — statistics show that cameras not only help reduce theft, they also serve as a deterrent by making sure you're not targeted in the first place.

But today's security cameras can do so much more. They can be used to analyze shopping patterns, monitor employee activities, protect your business from fraudulent injury claims — all this and more, while letting you access your cameras remotely so you can keep an eye on your business while you're away.

1. Use security cameras for customer research.

If you have a retail business, security cameras can be used to help make sure you're creating the best customer experience possible. You can study everything from how customers move through the store, to what types of product placement best influence sales. This type of insight can help you fine-tune store layout, ensuring that traffic flows in a way that's intuitive for the customer and profitable for you.

2. Use video to boost employee productivity.

Video surveillance can be used as a tool to help boost employee productivity and show your team that "you have their backs." You can document practices, procedures and customer engagements, which provide great performance coaching opportunities. While cameras can also monitor employee theft and negative behavior, the real upside comes in observing and rewarding good work, not deterring bad conduct.



3. Cameras can provide liability protection.

Liability can affect businesses in a variety of ways. A customer can have an accident and sue for damages, employees can file harassment, discrimination or other suits, and in some industries there are compliance issues to consider. So many of these instances come down to a "he said, she said" situation; having video records can be invaluable.

4. Cameras are a tool, but not a hammer.

While video monitoring and surveillance in the workplace can raise some negative "big brother" type inferences, there are legitimate justifications for video as a business consideration. Done right, cameras can protect you from theft, improve safety, enhance productivity and protect your business from liability.