

THE POINT

GREATER
OKLAHOMA CITY
CHAMBER



October 2018

www.okcchamber.com

Oklahoma City celebrates Omni Hotel groundbreaking

Oklahoma City's hospitality industry continued to gain momentum with the Oct. 1 groundbreaking of Oklahoma City's Omni Hotel, which will serve as the headquarter hotel for the Oklahoma City MAPS 3 Convention Center. Representatives from Omni Hotels & Resorts and the Oklahoma City community were on hand to celebrate the event.

The 605-room hotel will be built just north of the new convention center, near the MAPS 3 Scissortail Park and the Chesapeake Energy Arena. It will also be served by the Oklahoma City Streetcar, which is expected to open in December 2018. A true outdoor recreation, entertainment and culinary destination, Omni Oklahoma City Hotel will offer seven dining outlets, an expansive pool deck with event space, retail, 78,000 square feet of indoor and outdoor meeting space and a Mokara Spa. The

hotel is expected to be complete in early 2021. Read the full story about the groundbreaking at www.velocityokc.com/omni.



Officials gathered on Oct. 1 to break ground on Oklahoma City's Omni hotel, which will serve as the headquarter hotel for the MAPS 3 Convention Center.

Chamber adopts position on November state questions

The Greater Oklahoma City Chamber's executive committee and/or board of directors recently voted to support the state questions that will appear on the upcoming November ballot.

"The Chamber's executive committee and board of directors only take action on state questions whose outcome will be critical to the business community and to the future economic growth of Greater Oklahoma City," said Roy H. Williams, CCE, president and CEO of the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber. "We believe that voting yes on state questions 793, 794, 798, 800 and 801 is the right choice for the future of our region."

State Question 793

State Question 793 is a proposed amendment to the Oklahoma Constitution that would allow optometrists

and opticians to practice in large retail establishments such as Walmart. A yes vote on this state question would bring Oklahoma law in line with the 47 other states that already allow this practice, giving Oklahoma residents better access to affordable eye care.

State Question 794

Better known as Marsy's Law, State Question 794 would amend the Oklahoma Constitution to guarantee certain rights for victims of crimes and their families or guardians. Currently, the United States Constitution gives alleged and convicted criminals more than 20 individual rights. If passed, Marsy's Law would amend the Oklahoma Constitution to ensure that victims have rights that balance the rights given to the accused and convicted.

Continued on page 13

Compact launches new project to boost mental health outcomes in OKCPS

The OKC Schools Compact, of which the Chamber is a founding member, launched its newest program that seeks to place evidence-based social and emotional learning programs in the schools that need them the most. The program, known as EmbraceOKC, will focus on the mental health outcomes of students in the Oklahoma City Public School District.

The initial work began with an effort to collect data to establish a benchmark of the overall emotional health of the district. In fall 2017, all students in the sixth, eighth, 10th and 12th grades took the Oklahoma Prevention Needs Assessment (OPNA), an anonymous survey administered statewide by the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services. Information from OPNA can help identify early signs of substance use and mental health patterns, capture the risk level for problem behaviors and provide data for planning the selection of evidence-based practices. In OKCPS, more than 7,000 students from 55 school sites responded to the survey, an 80 percent participation rate overall.

After the survey data was collected and analyzed by a third party agency that works with 23 other states, a planning team with representatives from Oklahoma City Public Schools, the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services and the United Way of Central Oklahoma began meeting to identify priorities and develop recommendations. Their goal was to develop a comprehensive mental health plan with the understanding that addiction and other behavioral disorders are driven by the presence or risk factors in one or more domain – individual, peer, family, school or community.

The strategies behind Embrace OKC aim to reduce risk across all domains. The initial survey showed that EmbraceOKC and OKCPS should create prevention and intervention services that focus on three areas of risk:

- High-risk behavior, or involvement in behaviors that are counter to the community's values, safety of the community or healthy attachment/relationships
- Psychological stress, or the level of psychological distress and potential need for treatment
- Substance abuse

Using the data, the team identified three tiers of programming and services that should be implemented to help match students to prevention and treatment based on need. All students are included in Tier 1, which includes universal prevention strategies that will help prevent mental, emotional and behavioral disorders. Tier 2 intervention strategies are for those students showing early signs of mental, emotional, or behavioral disorders; Tier 3 strategies are for those students with treatment needs. The group also identified evidence-based programs to implement within schools, with a focus on community and family interventions.

According to Commissioner White in her Sept. 24 presentation to the school board, it is important to not only reduce risk but also build on protection. In addition to areas of need, the survey also showed areas where the district can build on existing strong protective factors. There were several areas where the district showed a higher level of protection than the rest of the state; the district's students were more likely to believe in a moral order, see opportunities for positive social involvement and see rewards for positive social involvement in school. White said that these data points represent opportunities to leverage what is going well in OKCPS.

The OKC Schools Compact, a group formed in 2015 to create and stimulate ownership of OKCPS and its outcomes, consists of Oklahoma City Public Schools, the Foundation for Oklahoma City Public Schools, the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber, the United Way of Central Oklahoma and the City of Oklahoma City.



Leadership Notes

An Oklahoma City visionary

Since Nov. 9, 2000, Jim Couch has admirably served Oklahoma City as its city manager. Last month, Jim announced that chapter of his life was coming to a close with a planned retirement date of Jan. 2, 2019. In his 18 years as city manager, Jim managed the day-to-day operations of the City of Oklahoma City, including its more than 4,800 employees and \$1.56 billion budget. But it is his significant contributions to some of Oklahoma City's most critical decisions in the past two decades that I want to highlight.

Jim navigated challenging negotiations that ensured Oklahoma City's access to dependable water sources and protected the needs of water users in southeast Oklahoma in the landmark Sardis Lake agreement. He was also an important part of the two agreements that brought the NBA to Oklahoma City—first, in 2005 when the New Orleans Hornets temporarily relocated to our arena, and then in 2008 when the Thunder permanently joined our community. And equally important to Oklahoma City's future and Jim's legacy is the way he oversaw the investments made by Oklahoma City's residents through MAPS, MAPS for Kids, MAPS 3 and the Better Streets, Safer City general obligation bond funds.

Jim is the longest-serving city manager in our history for a reason: he is an incredible leader. Without Jim at the helm, Oklahoma City would not be the same successful community that it is today.

Sincerely,



Roy H. Williams, CCE
Chamber CEO & President



Roy H. Williams, CCE
President & CEO

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STORY OF THE MONTH
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celebrates the opening of
their OKC facility"
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THE POINT!

ISSUE #3524 - October 2018

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The Point (ISSN 1075-6264) is published monthly by the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber, 123 Park Avenue, Oklahoma City, OK 73102.

POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to 'The Point!,'

Greater Oklahoma City Chamber

123 Park Avenue, Oklahoma City, OK 73102

or e-mail thepoint@okcchamber.com.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$15 per year included in Chamber membership; nonmembers, \$25 per year within the U.S.

Periodicals Postage paid at Oklahoma City.

Advertising rates upon request.

Publisher reserves the right to refuse any advertising.

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OK2030 regional forum highlights vision plan for state

Oklahoma has incredible people and resources, yet the state still ranks near the middle or bottom on national measures for economic indicators, education and health. To address the core issues that are holding Oklahoma back, the Oklahoma State Chamber created the OK2030 plan, a strategic vision plan to improve Oklahoma's economy, workforce, business climate and overall quality of life. The Greater Oklahoma City Chamber supports the OK2030 plan and its policy recommendations that position Oklahoma for long-term success.

As part of OK2030, the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber is partnering with the State Chamber's Research Foundation for a regional forum in Oklahoma City on Oct. 23 from 4 to 6 p.m. at Oklahoma History Center. Join other Oklahoma City business and community leaders in learning about the progress made so far on OK2030 and share your input on what to focus on next. There is no cost to attend. To register, visit OK2030.org/events or contact Lindsey Sparks at 405-272-4430 or lsparks@okstatechamber.com.



The OK2030 plan, an initiative of the State Chamber of Oklahoma, seeks to improve Oklahoma's economy, workforce, business climate and overall quality of life.

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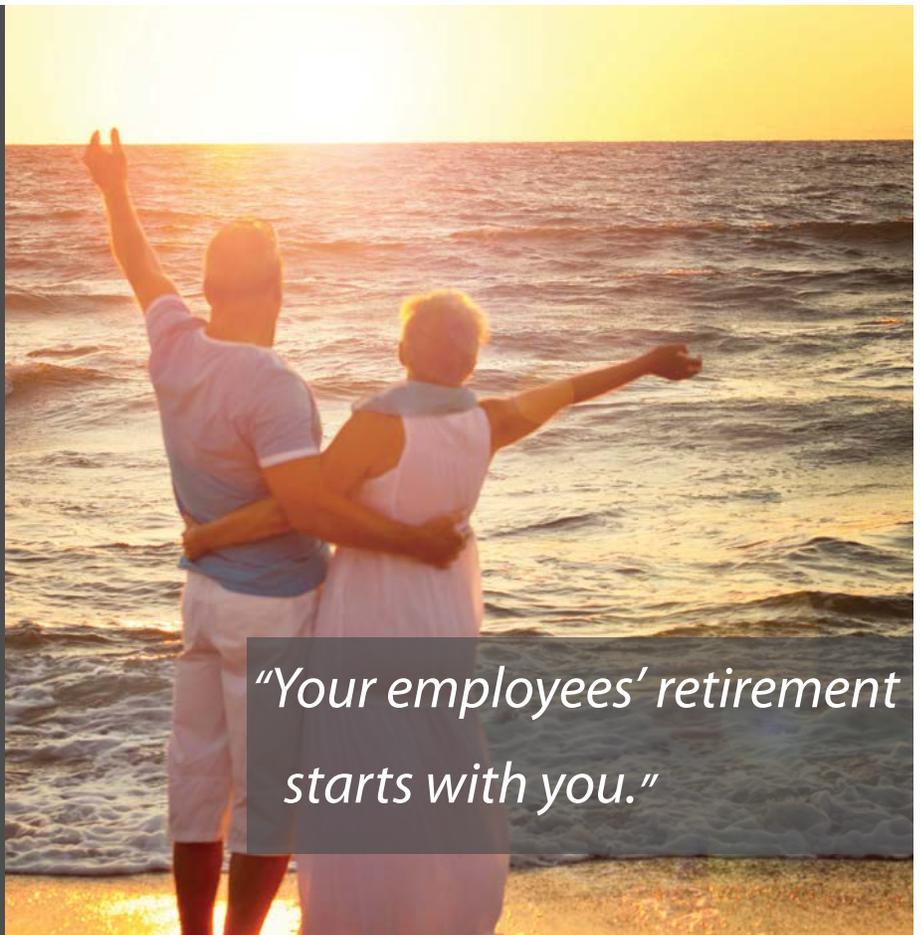


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UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct. 5

Navy Birthday Ball

Time: 6 to 9 p.m.
Location: The Criterion,
500 E. Sheridan Ave.
[www.okcchamber.com/
NBB](http://www.okcchamber.com/NBB)

Oct. 15

Golf Tournament

Location: Rose Creek Golf
Club, 17031 N May Ave.
[www.okcchamber.com/
golf](http://www.okcchamber.com/golf)

Oct. 16

Member Orientation

Time: 8:30 to 10 a.m.
Location: Chamber offices,
123 Park Ave.
[www.okcchamber.com/
orientation](http://www.okcchamber.com/orientation)

Oct. 17

Chamber Forum

Time: 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Location: VAST, 333 W
Sheridan Ave.
[www.okcchamber.com/
manufacturing](http://www.okcchamber.com/manufacturing)

Oct. 30

Greater Grads Career Fair

Time: Noon to 4 p.m.
Location: Cox Convention
Center, 1 Myriad Gardens
[www.okcchamber.com/
booth](http://www.okcchamber.com/booth)

Oct. 31

Chairman's Event

Time: 8 to 9:30 a.m.
Location: Oklahoma
Christian University, 2501 E
Memorial Road
[www.okcchamber.com/
lankford](http://www.okcchamber.com/lankford)

Nov. 9

MegaLunch

Time: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Location: 21c Museum Hotel
Oklahoma City, 900 W
Main St.
[www.okcchamber.com/
megalunch](http://www.okcchamber.com/megalunch)

Nov. 13

Sunset Reception

Time: 4 to 7 p.m.
Location: Sanctuary Asia
(OKC Zoo), 2000 Remington
Place
[www.okcchamber.com/
sunset2018](http://www.okcchamber.com/sunset2018)



Upcoming golf tournament set for Rose Creek Golf Club

It's time to tee off with the Chamber at its upcoming golf tournament on Monday, Oct. 15. Due to renovations at the tournament's previous location, two tournaments (a morning and afternoon tournament) will be held at the Rose Creek Golf Club, 17031 N May Ave in Edmond. Teams can select the morning (8 a.m. tee time) or afternoon (1:30 p.m. tee time) to play. Please note selection is on a first-come, first-served basis.

Each tournament will field four-person teams playing a scramble format. Teams will enjoy 18 holes of golf, putting green and driving range privileges, goody bags, breakfast, snacks, lunch and a heavy hors d'oeuvre reception.

Take advantage of this excellent opportunity to entertain clients, prospects and friends and to promote your business through networking and sponsorship recognition.

Four-person teams are available for \$1,350. Hole & Team Sponsors for \$1,750 will receive increased recognition and the opportunity to meet, greet and network with golfers at their sponsored hole for both tournaments. To register, visit www.okcchamber.com/golf. Special thanks to Signature Sponsor INSURICA.

Hear from U.S. Senator James Lankford at Chairman's event

U.S. Senator James Lankford will provide an update on the federal issues facing Oklahoma at the upcoming Chairman's Event on Wednesday, Oct. 31 from 8 to 9:30 a.m. at Oklahoma Christian University, 2501 E Memorial Road. Hear how his work at the Capitol will impact the Oklahoma City business community at this important upcoming event.

Tickets are \$40 for Chamber members and \$60 for nonmembers. Tables of 10 are available for \$750. Register at www.okcchamber.com/lankford. Special thanks to Signature Sponsor Cox Communications.

Meet your next great hire at the next Greater Grads Career Fair

For the first time in the fall semester, you can get a jump start on recruiting your next star entry-level employee or intern at the Greater Grads Career Fair on Oct. 30. The career fair, which was previously held in the spring, attracts more than 500 students from around the state each year with its convenient location in downtown Oklahoma City. This year, the Chamber is partnering with the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs to invite veterans to connect with Oklahoma employers at the event. Use this opportunity to meet and possibly interview on-site with people looking for a job or internship in our community.

The Career Fair will take place from noon to 4 p.m. at the Cox Convention Center, 1 Myriad Gardens. Single exhibitor booths are available for \$400, or you can double your exposure with a double booth for \$750. Government agency and non-profit rates are available for \$200 (must provide documentation of 501(c)(3) status).

Last chance to attend Chamber Forum in 2018

Join the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber for its last Chamber Forum of the 2018 season on Wednesday, Oct. 17, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Vast, 333 W Sheridan Ave. With a discussion on the importance of the region's manufacturing industry, attendees will learn how Oklahoma City's manufacturing industry is influencing innovation throughout the region.

Speakers include Maggie Lelak, solutions optimization manager of ventures and growth at Baker Hughes, a GE Company; and Mike O'Mara, senior vice president of manufacturing operations at Cytovance Biologics. Individual tickets are \$35 for Chamber members and \$55 for nonmembers.

Register online at www.okcchamber.com/manufacturing. Special thanks to Signature Sponsor Metro Technology Centers - Downtown Business Campus.

Make sure the Greater Grads Career Events are a part of your employee recruitment strategy. Register your booth today at www.greatergrads.com/booth.

Special thanks to Greater Grads Benefactors American Fidelity Assurance Company, The Boeing Company, Love's Travel Stops & Country Stores Inc., OGE Energy Corp., SandRidge Energy, Inc. and University of Central Oklahoma College of Business.



The fall Greater Grads Career Fair gives companies the chance to connect with college students from around the state.

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FAST FORWARD

The Oklahoma City Thunder celebrates 10 years in OKC

October 2018 marks 10 years since the Oklahoma City Thunder played its first game in Oklahoma City, the beginning of Oklahoma City's status as a big-league city. But bringing the NBA to Oklahoma City is a story that started much earlier than the Thunder's first game.

Oklahoma City's serious aspirations to attract a major sporting franchise began in earnest with the passage of the Metropolitan Area Projects (MAPS) in 1993. One of the MAPS program's capstone projects was the construction of an arena built to meet NBA and NHL specifications. Construction on that arena began in 1999, and the facility opened on June 8, 2002. In 2005, Oklahoma City had an opportunity to host a professional sports team when the New Orleans Hornets temporarily relocated to Oklahoma City following Hurricane Katrina. From 2005-2007, the Hornets played two seasons in Oklahoma City, enjoying its sell-

out crowds and supportive fan base. The excitement in Oklahoma City provided overwhelming evidence to the NBA that a team could be successful here.

Fans were just as eager to see Oklahoma City have a team of their own. In March 2008, Oklahoma City residents approved a penny sales tax to further propel Oklahoma City to the big leagues. The temporary sales tax raised \$121 million to pay for needed improvements to the arena and to construct a practice facility.

Later that year, the Oklahoma City Thunder started its inaugural season and played its first home game on Oct. 14, 2008. In a Q&A that appeared in that month's issue of *The POINT!*, Thunder Vice President of Corporate Communications Dan Mahoney said, "Because Oklahoma City has experienced the NBA through the Hornets, the city realizes what a tremendous community asset the Thunder can be. The people of

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Oklahoma City have been incredibly welcoming. Our players, coaches and staff are as excited to be here as the city is to have us.”

The Thunder’s young team of now-household names got off to a shaky start, beginning their first season in Oklahoma City with a record of 3–29. However, the team saw quick improvement. They finished their first season with a record of 23–59, and during the 2009–10 season, the team more than doubled its previous season’s win total and earned a spot in the 2010 NBA Playoffs.

By 2011–12, the team’s momentum and notoriety had increased. During the 2012 playoffs, Oklahoma City beat the San Antonio Spurs to advance to the NBA Finals. While that series ended in a loss to the Miami Heat, it brought undeniable global attention to the team—and by extension, to Oklahoma City. That year, ESPN’s *The Magazine* named Oklahoma City as No. 1 in their ultimate franchise rankings based on the value the fan base placed on their team.

Since that time, the Thunder has continued to be among the strongest teams in the league, with eight playoff appearances in 10 years and players racking up

individual rankings. Most notably, two Thunder players have achieved the title of NBA Most Valuable Player: Kevin Durant in 2014 and Russell Westbrook in 2017. Westbrook will join Paul George and Stephen Adams with coach Billy Donovan as they kick off the 2018–19 season this month, with the home opener taking place on Oct. 21 against the Sacramento Kings. View the team’s schedule at www.nba.com/thunder.



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Chamber scorecard highlights elected officials' votes

To keep its members informed on the issues at the State Capitol, the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber releases its Legislative Scorecard every year. The scorecard includes information prepared by the statewide Research Institute for Economic Development (RIED) to identify elected officials' votes on issues important to the business community. Alongside the RIED scores, the Chamber also assigns a score to legislators based on priority issues advocated by the Chamber during the legislative session.

The following charts represent voting records for State House and Senate elected officials during the 2018 legislative session. Scores are based on issues identified by the Chamber and RIED, including, but not limited to, elected officials' votes on the following bills:



- Step Up Plan (HB 1033XX)
- Constitutional Carry (SB 1212)
- Quality Events Act (SB 1252)
- Hotel/Motel Tax Repeal (HB 1012XX)
- Small Employer QJA (SB923)

2018 HOUSE SCORECARD

Representative	Party	District	2018 RIED	2018 OKC
Baker, Rhonda	R	60	77%	90%
Bennett, Forrest	D	92	63%	63%
Blancett, Meloyde	D	78	72%	76%
Boles, Brad	R	51	89%	90%
Bush, Carol	R	70	84%	86%
Caldwell, Chad	R	40	86%	83%
Condit, Donnie	D	18	91%	90%
Dollens, Mickey	D	93	77%	70%
Dunnington, Jason	D	88	88%	83%
Echols, Jon	R	90	86%	71%
Fetgatter, Scott	R	16	74%	90%
Ford, Ross	R	76	81%	76%
Frix, Avery	R	13	91%	90%
Gaddis, Karen	D	75	79%	76%
Gann, Tom	R	8	33%	40%
Goodwin, Regina	D	73	77%	70%
Hardin, Tommy	R	49	33%	50%
Hilbert, Kyle	R	29	91%	90%
Humphrey, Justin	R	19	77%	80%
Kannady, Chris	R	91	79%	83%
Kerbs, Dell	R	26	95%	90%
Kouplen, Steve	D	24	63%	70%
Lawson, Mark	R	30	77%	76%
Lepak, Mark	R	9	86%	80%
Loring, Ben	D	7	81%	90%
Lowe, Jason	D	97	72%	70%
Martinez, Ryan	R	39	91%	90%
McBride, Mark	R	53	53%	79%
McCall, Charles	R	22	91%	80%
McDaniel, Randy	R	83	95%	90%

McDugle, Kevin	R	12	65%	83%
McEntire, Marcus	R	50	93%	83%
Meredith, Matt	D	4	67%	70%
Montgomery, John	R	62	72%	76%
Moore, Lewis	R	96	81%	70%
Munson, Cyndi	D	85	91%	80%
Newton, Carl	R	58	81%	76%
Nichols, Monroe	D	72	58%	59%
Nollan, Jadine	R	66	84%	83%
O'Donnell, Terry	R	23	56%	81%
Ortega, Charles	R	52	74%	79%
Osburn, Mike	R	81	74%	74%
Perryman, David	D	56	49%	66%
Pfeiffer, John	R	38	91%	90%
Roberts, Dustin	R	21	91%	83%
Roberts, Sean	R	36	49%	40%
Rosecrants, Jacob	D	46	81%	90%
Russ, Todd	R	55	70%	73%
Sanders, Mike	R	59	81%	90%
Stone, Shane	D	89	63%	60%
Tadlock, Johnny	D	1	53%	60%
Taylor, Zack	R	28	95%	83%
Virgin, Emily	D	44	58%	63%
Walke, Collin	D	87	67%	70%
Wallace, Kevin	R	32	47%	62%
West, Josh	R	5	88%	90%
West, Kevin	R	54	53%	43%
West, Tammy	R	84	95%	90%
Worthen, Rande	R	64	65%	86%
Wright, Harold	R	57	81%	83%
Young, George	D	99	91%	80%

2018 SENATE SCORECARD

Senator	Party	District	2018 RIED	2018 OKC
Allen, Mark	R	4	72%	53%
Bergstrom, Micheal	R	1	95%	90%
Bice, Stephanie	R	22	85%	80%
Boggs, Larry	R	7	77%	63%
Brooks, Michael	D	44	90%	100%
Dahm, Nathan	R	33	62%	50%
Daniels, Julie	R	29	92%	70%
David, Kim	R	18	62%	83%
Dossett, JJ	D	34	90%	90%
Dugger, Tom	R	21	100%	100%
Floyd, Kay	D	46	90%	100%
Ikley Freeman, Allison	D	37	90%	90%
Jech, Darcy	R	26	95%	90%
Kidd, Chris	R	31	95%	83%
Leewright, James	R	12	85%	56%
Matthews, Kevin	D	11	74%	100%
McCortney, Greg	R	13	95%	90%

Murdock, Casey	R	27	85%	63%
Paxton, Lonnie	R	23	85%	90%
Pederson, Roland	R	19	85%	66%
Pemberton, Dewayne	R	9	95%	90%
Pugh, Adam	R	41	74%	83%
Quinn, Marty	R	2	95%	70%
Rader, Dave	R	39	85%	90%
Rosino, Paul	R	45	85%	90%
Scott, Paul	R	43	95%	70%
Sharp, Ron	R	17	95%	90%
Shaw, Wayne	R	3	87%	90%
Silk, Joseph	R	5	46%	43%
Simpson, Frank	R	14	95%	90%
Smalley, Jason	R	28	69%	80%
Standridge, Rob	R	15	56%	66%
Stanislowski, Gary	R	35	92%	90%
Thompson, Roger	R	8	95%	90%
Treat, Greg	R	47	72%	71%

NG = No grade

I = Incomplete

- Officials who will no longer be in office in 2019 were removed from this list
- Rather than counting against a legislator's score, an absent vote was given three points towards the final score
- Casey Murdock was sworn in as State Senator on February 26, 2018; his vote total reflects his combined House and Senate votes
- Five bonus points were awarded if elected officials carried the Governor's Criminal Justice Reform bills
- A yes vote on SB 1212 (Constitutional Carry) was against the Chamber's position,

- therefore, 10 points were deducted from a legislator's score
- An excused vote on SB 1212 (Constitutional Carry) is equivalent to a no vote in support of the Chamber's position; therefore, 10 points were added to a legislator's score
- Representative Brad Boles won the special election for HD 51 (Biggs' seat), and was sworn in on March 16, 2018. Therefore, he was not present as a legislator for several votes, but was scored on votes he was present
- Five bonus points awarded for allowing Step Up, Criminal Justice Reform Bills and other Chamber priorities to be heard in House

"You can't fight what you don't know about. If you know about it, you can fight it. You can beat it. You can survive."

- Cecilia, Breast Health Network Patient and Breast Cancer Survivor

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Chamber position on state questions (cont'd from page 1)

State Question 798

If passed, State Question 798 would require candidates for Oklahoma governor and lieutenant governor run on one ticket beginning in 2026, thus creating a unified ticket aligned behind a common vision for the state. This state question is a component of the State Chamber's OK 2030 agenda, which the Chamber supports.

State Question 800

State Question 800 would deposit 5 percent of the revenue from Oklahoma's oil and gas production tax in a trust fund called the Oklahoma Vision Fund. If passed, the Oklahoma Vision Fund would become the state's third budget reserve fund, and unlike the Rainy Day Fund and the Revenue Stabilization Fund, deposits would be made into the Oklahoma Vision Fund every year. The Oklahoma Vision Fund would grow over time, which would help stabilize the state's long-term financial needs.

State Question 801

Property taxes are the largest source of local revenue for schools, but the Oklahoma Constitution limits how those funds may be spent. State Question 801 would remove some restrictions on how school districts may use property tax dollars. If passed, this state question would allow schools to use 5 mills of their property tax dollars for teacher salaries, additional staff or general expenditures. This state question does not add any new money to school budgets, but it does provide more local control of existing funds.

Vote on Nov. 6

You can cast your vote for these five state questions and for candidates in local, state and federal elections on Tuesday, Nov. 6. Visit www.ok.gov/elections to confirm your registration, find your polling location and view a sample ballot.

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SJI tops Metro 50 list for second consecutive year

For the second year in a row, SJ Innovations, LLC (SJI) was named the fastest-growing privately held company in the Greater Oklahoma City metro at last month's Metro 50 Awards. More than 650 people gathered at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum on Sept. 24 to celebrate the region's fastest-growing, privately held companies. Monterey Construction and Angel Heart Boutique rounded out the top three companies honored at the event.

"Inc. magazine made a declaration that Oklahoma City is the top city to launch and sustain a business and that declaration is evident to me tonight as we celebrate the tremendous growth and diversity of the Metro 50 honorees," Oklahoma City Mayor David Holt said at the event. "As Oklahoma City grows, so do you. And as you grow, so does Oklahoma City."

SJI, founded in 2012 by CEO Sacia Johnson, provides distance learning systems and training, systems engineering, and information technology support

services to the federal government. The company landed their second Metro 50 award after exhibiting 6,561 percent growth in revenues from 2015 to 2017.

SJ Innovations staff is currently working on federal contracts providing direct support in the aftermath of hurricanes Harvey, Irma, Maria and others to restore critical national weather service and FAA air traffic control facilities. SJ Innovations was recently awarded a new, \$34 million contract with the FAA Academy at the Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center here in Oklahoma City.

Monterey Construction was awarded the second-fastest growing privately held company in the region with 1,445 percent growth from 2015 to 2017. Monterey Construction is a custom builder that specializes in delivering elite custom quality for high-end residential and light commercial construction. Monterey Construction has revolutionized the custom-building process by pioneering a new custom construction model

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that allows their customers to consistently earn five figures in new equity building the home of their dreams. The company was also in the top three on the Metro 50 list in 2017 and on the Inc. Magazine 5000 as one of the fastest-growing companies in the country.

The third-fastest growing company in the region was Angel Heart Boutique, an online retailer specializing in women's plus-size apparel. With its first appearance on the Metro 50 list, Angel Heart Boutique saw 784 percent growth from 2015-2017 and has been recognized as one of the fastest-growing plus-size boutiques in the nation. The company was started with a \$200 initial investment and in three years has brought in \$6 million in revenue, all while remaining debt free.



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The 2018 Metro 50 Awards also honored the Metro 50 Sustainers, or current winners who have made the Metro 50 list at least seven times in the past 10 years. Two Metro 50 Sustainers were recognized at the event: AtLink Services, LLC and Saxum.

AtLink provides quality, high-speed internet service to more than 15,000 rural Oklahomans while connecting with the community in a hands-on way. They have been on the Metro 50 list for nine of the past 10 years. Saxum, an integrated advertising, public relations and digital communications agency with expertise in energy, health care, nonprofit organizations and social issues, has appeared on the list a total of 11 times since 2007.

Of the 50 companies honored at the event, 35 have appeared on the Metro 50 list more than one time. To view a complete list of the top 50 companies, visit www.okcchamber.com/2018metro50. Special thanks to the following Metro 50 sponsors: American Fidelity Assurance Company/INSURICA, Bank of Oklahoma, Cox Business, EY, Express Employment Professionals, The Journal Record Publishing Company, OGE Energy Corp. and the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber.

Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation

1. Publication Title: The Point!
2. Publication Number: 0406-260
3. Filing Date: 10-04-18
4. Issue Frequency: Monthly
5. Number of Issues Published Annually: 12
6. Annual Subscription Price: Members, \$15
7. Complete Mailing Address of known office of publication:
 Greater Oklahoma City Chamber, 123 Park Ave., Oklahoma City, OK 73102.
 Contact person: Cynthia Reid, Telephone 405-297-8900.
8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher: Greater Oklahoma City Chamber, 123 Park Ave., Oklahoma City, OK 73102
9. Publisher (Name & complete mailing address): Cynthia Reid,
 Greater Oklahoma City Chamber, 123 Park Ave., Oklahoma City, OK 73102
 Editor (Name & complete mailing address): Cynthia Reid,
 Greater Oklahoma City Chamber, 123 Park Ave., Oklahoma City, OK 73102
 Managing Editor (Name & complete mailing address): Cynthia Reid,
 Greater Oklahoma City Chamber, 123 Park Ave., Oklahoma City, OK 73102
10. Owner: Greater Oklahoma City Chamber, 123 Park Ave., Okla. City, OK 73102
11. Known Bondholders, Mortgages and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding One Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages or Other Securities: None
12. Tax Status: Has not changed during preceding 12 months
13. Publication Title: The Point!
14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below: October 2018
15. Extent and nature of circulation:

	Average # Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	# Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
A. Total No. of Copies	4,500	3,450
B. 1.) Mailed Outside County Paid Subscriptions	500	449
2.) Mailed in County Paid Subscriptions	3,700	2,743
3.) Paid Distribution Outside the Mail	0	0
4.) Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through USPS	0	0
C. Total Paid Distribution	4,200	3,192
D. 1.) Free or Nominal Rate Outside County Copies Included on PS Form 3541	0	0
2.) Free or Nominal Rate In County Copies Included on PS Form 3541	0	0
3.) Free or Nominal Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS	0	0
4.) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail	200	200
E. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution	200	200
F. Total Distribution	4,400	3,392
G. Copies not Distributed	100	58
H. Total	4,500	3,450
I. Percent Paid	95%	94%

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Businesses who join the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber are part of the largest coalition of businesses in the state and make the Chamber's work in the community possible. Each member level is identified on the listing below.

CORE

APCO Cure, LLC

Medical Clinics
Mr. Thomas Austin 237-2726
300 NW 63rd St.
Oklahoma City, OK 73116
www.apcocure.com

CORE

Burn by Rocky Patel

Bars / Taverns
Mr. JT Lane 407-0816
13230 Pawnee Drive, Suite 120
Oklahoma City, OK 73114
www.burnbyrockypatel.com

EMERGING LEADER

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Computer Software Developers
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501 NE 122nd St., Suite D
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www.corelogic.com

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Courtyard by Marriott Airport

Hotels & Motels
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4301 Highline Blvd.
Oklahoma City, OK 73108
www.marriott.com/okcca

CORE

Crossroads Fitness, LLC

Fitness Equipment - Sales & Service
Mr. Todd Abrell 406-1261
14624 Paddington Ave.
Oklahoma City, OK 73142

CORE

Gambitz Group, LLC

Security Guard & Patrol Services
Mr. Michael Coil 434-6137
901 Delmar Circle
Moore, OK 73160
www.gambitzgroupllc.com

CORE

Home Oasis Home, LLC

Interior Decorators & Designers
Ms. Sarah Hamby (585) 236-5100
17252 Hickory Trail
Newalla, OK 74857-8786
www.yourhomeoasishome.com

CORE

Iris Memory Care

Assisted Living / Nursing Homes
Ms. Denise Diaz 330-2222
2424 NW 178th St.
Edmond, OK 73012
www.irisseniorliving.com

ADVISOR

Mach Resources, LLC

Oil & Gas Exploration & Production
Mr. Tom Ward 252-8100
14201 Wireless Way, Suite 300
Oklahoma City, OK 73134
www.machresources.com

CORE

Matty McMillen's Irish Pub

Restaurants
Mr. Tanner Cargill 607-8822
2201 NW 150th St.
Edmond, OK 73013
www.mattymcmillens.com

CORE

The Metro Tech Foundation

Nonprofit / Service Agencies
Ms. Ashleigh Gibson 595-4415
1700 Springlake Drive
Oklahoma City, OK 73111
www.metrotech.edu/foundation

CORE

OKX Roofing

Roofing Contractors
Mr. Abe Ruiz 520-4775
1 NE 2nd St., Suite 209
Oklahoma City, OK 73104-2276
www.oklahomarooftingexperts.com

CORE

OSSO Sports & Social / Lighthouse Beach Bar

Sports Complexes & Entertainment Centers
Mr. Blake Bullard 418-6776
3330 NW 112th Terrace
Oklahoma City, OK 73120
www.ossosports.com

CORE

One Focus Medical

Medical Clinics
Mr. Khalid Winston 285-7561
3815 S Boulevard
Edmond, OK 73013-5479
www.onefocusmedical.com

CORE

Stonehorse Crossing Luxury Apartments

Apartments
Ms. Whitney Curtis 286-5570
14320 Mezzaluna Blvd.
Oklahoma City, OK 73134
stonehorsecrossingapartmentsoklahomacity.com

CORE

The Social Order Dining Collective

Restaurant Management
Ms. Annie Tucker
718 W Sheridan Ave.
Oklahoma City, OK 73102
www.thesocialorder.com

CORE

Trevo, LLC

Health & Nutrition Consultants
Mr. Richard Beadle 942-3200
1601 Northwest Expressway, Suite 1800
Oklahoma City, OK 73118
www.trevocorporate.com

ADVISOR

UnitedHealthcare

Insurance - Health
Mr. Jonathan Lawson 415-8147
755 Research Parkway, Suite 160
Oklahoma City, OK 73104
www.uhc.com

CORE

Wal-Mart Supercenter #1626

Retail
Mr. Marquise Shaver 752-1900
2000 W Memorial Road
Oklahoma City, OK 73134
www.walmart.com

Members Upgrade Their Support of the Chamber

The following member companies increased their investment in the Chamber, 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 405-297-8949 or info@okcchamber.com.

PARTNER+

MTM Recognition

Trophies & Awards
Mr. Mike Ketcherside 609-6840
3201 SE 29th St.
Oklahoma City, OK 73115-1605
www.mtmrecognition.com

ADVISOR

Studio Architecture

Architects
Mr. James H. Hasenbeck 605-1044
816 N Walker Ave., Suite 100
Oklahoma City, OK 73102
www.studioarc.com

ASSOCIATE

Accel Financial Staffing

Employment Agencies
Ms. Meg Salyer 232-3100
811 N Broadway Ave.
Oklahoma City, OK 73102
www.accelfinancial.com



Convention and visitor industry remains strong in OKC

The Oklahoma City Convention and Visitors Bureau, a division of the Chamber, concluded another successful fiscal year on June 30. According to the CVB's recently released Annual Report, the Oklahoma City convention and visitor industry continues to see growth and success in the wake of new additions to the Oklahoma City attraction market.

Between July 1, 2017, and June 30, 2018, Oklahoma City exceeded \$15 million in total hotel room taxes for the first time in the history of the CVB, an increase over FY17 by 7.5 percent. Comparing FY2018 with FY2017, room night demand from a broad mix of business increased by 8.36 percent, hotel revenue increased by 8.63 percent and hotel room supply grew citywide by 4.35 percent. These metrics far outpace those found in Oklahoma City's competitive set of cities who compete for the same events, and only Austin added a larger percentage of rooms to its inventory.

The CVB team concluded FY18 with 379,255 definite room nights produced in the convention, sports, group tours and equine markets. The CVB also provided registration and servicing to 263 groups and 43 site visits to potential groups. Oklahoma City also hosted 710 motorcoach group tours during the fiscal year. The year-end economic impact for conventions and sports sales was \$113,169,916.

The positive momentum of the convention and events industry comes on the heels of several big moments for Oklahoma City attractions. The Civic Center Music Hall celebrated their 80th season, Remington Park began their 30th year of business, and the Dodgers saw 13 players advance to the major leagues. Significant to the future of the industry was the groundbreaking of the MAPS 3 Convention Center in June, an event that made headlines in numerous meetings and events industry publications. The CVB capitalized on this momentum by launching a new meetings site, MeetinOKC.com, to continue to market Oklahoma City's new facility as a prime location for conventions and meetings. Looking to the future, the CVB developed tentative business, or sales leads, for 421 groups for a total of 463,652 potential future room nights.

The CVB also marketed Oklahoma City as a visitor destination, hosting 47 travel writers and completing 231 media pitches and 83 story assists during the 2017 fiscal year. To support a positive visitor experience, the CVB held eight Certified Tourism Ambassador training events, resulting in 356 active CTA members in the Greater Oklahoma City metro area. Customer satisfaction surveys measuring Oklahoma City as a destination, the CVB as an organization and local industry partners averaged an overall satisfaction rating of 96 percent for the year.

GRAND OPENINGS

Congratulations to 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.



GenM Creative
1 NE 2nd St., Suite 102
Oklahoma City, OK 73104



Meta Special Aerospace
5600 Philip J. Rhoads Ave.
Oklahoma City, OK 73008



SeaTec Consulting
2601 Liberty Parkway, Suite 90
Midwest City, OK 73110



Variety Care
721 W. Britton Road
Oklahoma City, OK 73114



Matty McMillen's Irish Pub
2201 NW 150th St.
Edmond, OK 73013



Sundance Airport
13000 N. Sara Road
Yukon, OK 73099



National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum
1700 NE 63rd St.
Oklahoma City, OK 73111



Wal-Mart Supercenter #1626
2000 W. Memorial Road
Oklahoma City, OK 73134

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

Oklahoma City's entrepreneurs are some of the youngest in the country

- In a recent study measuring the average ages of business founders applying for small business loans, Lending Tree found that Oklahoma City's entrepreneurs were the fourth youngest in the country.
- Among the top 10, Oklahoma City has the largest share of millennial-owned businesses (founded by people born between 1979-1995).
- LendingTree writes that young entrepreneurs are lucky to have a solid support network in Oklahoma City, including tax incentives, low cost of living and affordable real estate.

Cities Ranked by Entrepreneur Age

City	Rank	Average Founder's Age	Gen Z (1996-2010)	Millennial (1979-1995)	Gen X (1964-1978)
Salt Lake City, UT	1	37.81	2.10%	40.00%	45.30%
Buffalo, NY	2	37.91	3.60%	35.50%	42.20%
New Orleans, LA	3	37.95	1.60%	42.10%	39.20%
Oklahoma City, OK	4	37.97	0.70%	43.70%	39.30%
Charlotte, NC	5	38.21	5.00%	34.70%	44.20%

A rank of No. 1 is most favorable.
Source: Lending Tree, 2018.

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 – 297-8976; elong@okcchamber.com

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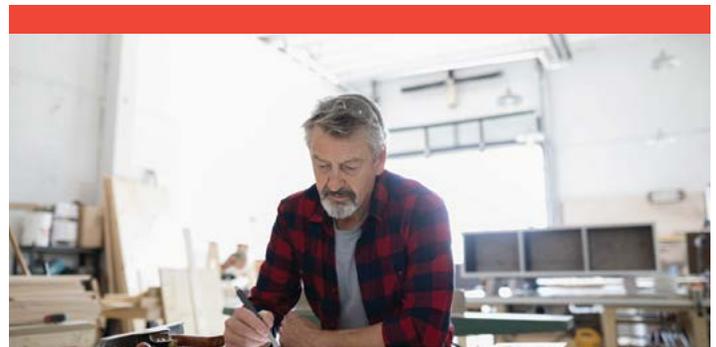
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The Future is Now: Cox Paves Way for Smarter Homes, Businesses in Oklahoma City

by Kristin Peck,
Vice President of
Public Affairs, Cox
Communications



It's amazing how quickly technology evolves. It's projected that the average household will have 50 internet-enabled devices by the year 2020. Once limited to the imagination, consumer demand is now strong for home automation features and smart appliances such as refrigerators and washing machines. The rapid increase in internet-enabled devices and new technology continues to make our lives easier and helps businesses run more efficiently. But how?

The backbone of technological advancement is a strong infrastructure. With gigabit internet speeds in Oklahoma City, Cox Communications is enabling smarter homes and businesses by delivering ultra-fast speeds throughout the community. Gigabit internet speeds allow users to:

- Run all internet-enabled devices at the same time
- Stream more than 25 4K HD videos simultaneously
- Download an HD movie in less than 60 seconds
- Download 100 songs in three seconds
- Upload about 1,000 photos in about a minute

By offering GIGABLAST internet service to the Oklahoma City metro area, Cox is staying ahead of customers' growing demands, as residents can already use multiple internet-enabled devices simultaneously to stream, download and share.

Cox is making significant upgrades to its infrastructure in Oklahoma City as part of the company's commitment to invest \$10B in its network over the next five years. Cox has been committed to offering gigabit speeds to all customers – not just a select few – and an array of speed and pricing options for all homes and businesses.

By heavily investing in our infrastructure, we are enabling smart homes, smart businesses and smart cities to be more connected than ever before. Fast and reliable internet connections are essential to driving local innovation and providing access to education opportunities. Having access to gigabit internet speeds helps drive us well into the future as we continue to innovate and use technology to connect to the world.

G1GABLAST sm