



NOVEMBER 2023 • OKCCHAMBER.COM

GREATER
OKLAHOMA CITY
CHAMBER

VOTE YES ON DEC. 12 TO KEEP OKC BIG LEAGUE

The voters of Oklahoma City are faced with a critical decision on December 12 with the vote to build a new arena, secure decades of top-quality entertainment for the region, and set the stage for the city's continued growth.

"This is an incredibly important day for Oklahoma City," said Christy Gillenwater, president and CEO of the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber. "Securing a long-term lease for the Oklahoma City Thunder and maintaining our status as a big-league city is important to our city's quality of life and to the trajectory of our economy. The presence of the NBA brings credibility and awareness to our market – losing it is unthinkable."

The ability to attract an even stronger concert schedule is also important to residents and to attracting visitor dollars.

"Today's modern arenas bring capabilities the biggest acts are looking for," explained Zac Craig, president of Visit OKC, a division of the Chamber. "In selecting a route through the central U.S., many performers will play Kansas City or St. Louis, and then head south to play Dallas. When they are making a choice between Oklahoma City and Tulsa for that stop in between, we want that stop to be here and this new arena will help ensure that stop."

Gillenwater said the passage of the arena is important for many reasons, but one of the biggest is the economic impact.

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PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES IN OKLAHOMA COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM

In 2016, the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber, in partnership with local leaders, embarked on a transformative journey. Recognizing the need for change within the criminal justice system, we established the Oklahoma County Criminal Justice Reform Task Force. The task force's purpose was clear: assess the existing system, devise strategies to reduce jail population and create a justice framework that truly served the community. Guided by the insightful analysis conducted by the Vera Institute of Justice, the task force identified six crucial recommendations that would shape the course



ReMerge is one of several diversion programs which are helping reduce recidivism in Oklahoma County.

of justice reform over the next few years.

Fast forward to today, and the landscape of criminal justice in Oklahoma County has undergone significant changes. Led by the creation of a permanent inter-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



A New Noninvasive Treatment for Essential Tremor

OU Health is the first and only health system in Oklahoma to offer an incisionless treatment for patients with medical refractory essential tremor that can result in improvement in hand, head and body shaking as well as increased mobility through a same-day treatment. Called “Focused Ultrasound,” the new technology is for essential tremor patients who have not responded to medication, or who cannot take it.

Focused ultrasound for essential tremor is an FDA-approved, non-invasive procedure that’s transforming patient care. The procedure uses ultrasound waves to target the specific areas of the brain responsible for tremors. Guided by MRI, the soundwaves pass safely through the skull and soft tissues to focus heat on only the targeted area, providing relief from symptoms. With no surgical cuts or permanent implants necessary, there is minimal to no risk of infection, and the treatment is often performed on an outpatient basis. Many patients can expect to resume normal activities within days.

OU Health is proud to be the first in Oklahoma to offer this revolutionary treatment.

To make an appointment or for more information, visit us at OUHealth.com/EssentialTremor

OU Health Physicians — Neurosurgery Clinic
1000 N Lincoln Blvd, Suite 4000
Oklahoma City, OK 73104
(405) 271-4912



LEADERSHIP NOTES



CHRISTY GILLENWATER
President & CEO

CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM SHAPING OKC BUSINESS LANDSCAPE

One of the aspects that attracted me to the Greater OKC Chamber was its groundbreaking work in leading criminal justice reform, and a new study provides our community with an analysis of our success and sets a path for future efforts. The Chamber led the charge for reform in 2016, paving the way for the creation of the Oklahoma County Criminal Justice Advisory Council. The reason we engage in this work is simple: when more people in the community prosper, businesses thrive.

A fair and effective criminal justice system ensures that more people can go to work. When individuals are rehabilitated rather than incarcerated unnecessarily, it expands our workforce and diversifies our labor pool.

The reputation of our city will also benefit from these reforms. By promoting a safe and equitable environment, OKC becomes an attractive destination for professionals and their families. A well-functioning justice system contributes to public safety as well. Reduced crime rates lead to a more secure environment for businesses to operate, encouraging investment and economic development.

Ensuring that the legal system is fair and transparent reduces the risk of legal disputes for businesses. Additionally, supporting fairness and justice aligns with ethical business practices, which is crucial for building trust and credibility.

Criminal justice reform is not just a societal issue; it is an economic imperative. By actively participating in and supporting these reform efforts, the OKC business community not only contributes to a just society but also ensures a prosperous and sustainable economic future for OKC.

»» READ CHRISTY'S VELOCITYOKC ONLINE STORY OF THE MONTH

Oklahoma becoming a magnet for millennials

VELOCITYOKC.COM/CHRISTYSPICK



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Greater Oklahoma City Chamber
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UPCOMING EVENTS

CALENDAR

(Events are subject to change.
Consult okcchamber.com/events
for the most recent updates.)

NOVEMBER 8

State of the Economy

11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

National Cowboy & Western

Heritage Museum

1700 NE 63rd St.

okcchamber.com/econ

NOVEMBER 15

Chamber Forum

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The Petroleum Club

100 N Broadway, 34th Floor

okcchamber.com/novemberforum

NOVEMBER 20

DC Spotlight

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Champion Convention Center

737 S. Meridian Ave.

okcchamber.com/dcspotlight

DECEMBER 5

Inclusion at Work

10 to 11 a.m.

Zoom

RSVP to mdunn@okcchamber.com

DECEMBER 14

Annual Meeting

11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

National Cowboy & Western

Heritage Museum

1700 NE 63rd St.

okcchamber.com/annual



Impact of national and global economic trends on OKC region the focus at Chamber's State of the Economy

The Greater Oklahoma City Chamber's upcoming State of the Economy event is an opportunity to hear the latest economic trends both locally and nationally. The event will be Nov. 8 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum.

Dana M. Peterson, chief economist for The Conference Board, is the featured keynote speaker and will provide an in-depth analysis of the current economic outlook. She has established herself as a visionary and the go-to expert providing insightful analysis and predictions to corporations, associations and government organizations looking for foresight into how economic drivers might impact their businesses in the short- and long-term.

In her address, Peterson will give a comprehensive review of key indicators, such as GDP growth, the labor market, inflation and interest rates, and how it relates to the Oklahoma City region's businesses.

The event also includes an illuminating panel discussion that delves into the heart of Oklahoma's economic landscape. Regional economists will dissect the state's unique financial challenges as well as potential opportunities.

From analyzing the impact of local policies on businesses to exploring innovative solutions for sustainable growth, you won't want to miss this dynamic conversation. Participating in this panel discussion is:

- Robert Dauffenbach, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus, University of Oklahoma
- Russell Evans, Ph.D., Partner and Chief Economist, Thorberg Collectorate
- Mark Snead, Ph.D., President, RegionTrack, Inc.
- Chad Wilkerson, Oklahoma City Branch Executive and Senior Vice President of Community Development, Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City

Tickets are \$60 for Chamber members and \$85 for nonmembers. To register or learn more, visit okcchamber.com/econ. Sponsor tables of eight with additional recognition are available for \$1,600. Please contact Suzette Ellison Jordan at sellison@okcchamber.com for table sponsor inquiries.

Special thanks to Presenting Sponsor Arvest Bank and Host Sponsor Post Oak Toyota.

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF NEW OKC ARENA UNVEILED AT NOVEMBER FORUM

CHAMBER FORUM

Thunder, Mayor Holt announced a plan to build a new, world-class arena. The facility will serve as the Thunder's home for the next thirty years and become a premier venue for renowned performances, promising substantial economic growth for our city.

One study estimates the Thunder's direct annual economic impact at \$600 million, generating 3,000 jobs. As the Dec. 12 vote approaches, we invite you to a special forum delving into the economic implications of this new arena in Oklahoma City.

Following more than a year of discussions with Oklahoma City leaders and the Oklahoma City

The Chamber Forum will be held at 11:30 a.m., Nov. 15, at the Petroleum Club of Oklahoma City, located on the 34th floor of the BancFirst Tower, 100 N. Broadway Ave.

During this event, attendees will gain insights into the arena's vital role in attracting top-tier concerts. You'll also hear from small business owners who will share firsthand accounts of how arena attendees positively influence their success.

Participating in the discussion will be:

- Eric Long, Research Economist, Greater Oklahoma City Chamber
- Chris Semrau, General Manager, ASM Global/Paycom Center

The cost to attend the October Chamber Forum is \$45 for Chamber members and \$55 for nonmembers. To register, visit okcchamber.com/novemberforum.

Special thanks to Presenting Sponsor Cox Communications and Corporate Sponsor ADG | Blatt.

CALL FOR SPEAKERS AT CHAMBER'S PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE, ELEVATE

The Greater Oklahoma City Chamber's Elevate conference will be here soon and you can be a part of it. In preparation for next year's event, the Chamber is inviting members to submit their best trainers and knowledgeable employees to speak in a breakout session.

Elevate is a professional development conference designed to help the region's companies provide professional development options to their employees without sending them out of state. The conference will be held Thursday, May 2 at the Oklahoma City Convention Center.

Elevate invests in the future of employees on every level from interns and new professionals to team managers. Breakout session tracks will be geared towards:

- Leadership growth
- Sales
- Managing teams

- Small businesses and entrepreneurs
- College students and new professionals
- Mental health and well being

These sessions bring important information to the forefront for attendees and include practical ways to implement growth, inclusiveness or interpersonal skills within each track. Along with the professional training, the conference includes breakfast, lunch and networking opportunities throughout the day, culminating with a closing cocktail reception.

If you are interested in presenting at Elevate, complete the speaker form at okcchamber.com/2024ElevateSpeakers. After all the submissions are gathered, a review committee will evaluate the proposals to select the best variety of topics to be presented at next year's event. Preference will be given to speakers who are Chamber members.

There are also several ways organizations can be a part of Elevate beyond sending your employees. If you'd like to support the conference as a sponsor and make an even bigger impact at the event, contact Suzette Ellison Jordan at sellison@okcchamber.com.

CELEBRATE 2023'S SUCCESSES AT THE ANNUAL MEETING AS THE CHAMBER TRANSITIONS BOARD CHAIRS

The Greater Oklahoma City Chamber's Annual Meeting will be an event you won't want to miss. Purchase your tickets now and honor outgoing Chair Sean Trauschke and celebrate the installation of Chair-Elect Teresa Rose.

In addition to the inauguration of a new board chair, the event will celebrate the successes of Oklahoma City over the past year and provide a glimpse of what's to come. The Annual Meeting will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Dec. 14, at the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum.

You can purchase tickets for this year's Annual Meeting by visiting okcchamber.com/annual. Tickets are



SEAN TRAUSCHKE



TERESA ROSE

\$75 for Chamber members and \$100 for nonmembers. Sponsor tables of eight with additional recognition are available for \$1,600. If you are interested in purchasing a table sponsorship, please contact Suzette Ellison Jordan at sellison@okcchamber.com.

Special thanks to Presenting Sponsor Bank of Oklahoma and Host Sponsor Cox Communications.

OKCONNECT RETURNS IN 2024 TO ELEVATE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



The Greater Oklahoma City Chamber and Leadership OKC have announced they will be continuing the high-level orientation program OKConnect during the first half of 2024.

OKConnect is designed for community newcomers or business leaders with a new or expanded role with a focus on community awareness and involvement. The program helps company leaders discover how to get involved in the community. Participants gain behind-the-scenes insight into Oklahoma City, from its earliest

beginnings to its current growth and success.

OKConnect includes four sessions, which are scheduled on Jan. 31, Feb. 28, March 27 and April 24. Each session is from noon to 5 p.m.

The sessions provide an overview of Oklahoma City's culture and business climate. Participants will:

- Learn about the founding of OKC, and the state and region's political history. They will also receive an overview of OKC demographics and which factors have shaped our city.
- Hear how innovation, as well as public and private partnerships and investments, are making a difference in OKC's educational outcomes.
- Hear about the city's plan to sustain economic growth.
- Learn about all the exciting places to visit and things to do in Oklahoma City and the importance of getting connected.

If you are a Chamber member, the cost to attend is \$500; nonmembers are \$600. Attendance is limited to 60 participants. To apply, visit okcchamber.com/okconnect.

Contact Marcus Elwell at melwell@okcchamber.com for more details or if you have questions.

OKLAHOMA FILM OFFICES COME TOGETHER IN LOS ANGELES TO PROMOTE INDUSTRY, ATTRACT MORE PROJECTS

2023 has been a big year for Oklahoma's film industry. With the recent nationwide release of director Martin Scorsese's "Killers of the Flower Moon," as well as work on a major film project being shot in Oklahoma City that is expected to be a summer blockbuster in 2024, Oklahoma's film industry is booming.

Representatives from four Oklahoma film commissions are riding the movie momentum all the way to the West Coast. There, they are looking to promote Oklahoma as a filmmaking destination to the scores of industry officials attending the 2023 American Film Market in Santa Monica, California.

Representatives from the Oklahoma Film and Music Office; Oklahoma City Film and Creative Industries Office; Tulsa Office of Film, Music, Arts and Culture; and the Cherokee Film Commission are collaborating on this event, which is billed as the largest motion picture business market in North America. It attracts more than 7,000 attendees annually, many of them film producers and distributors.

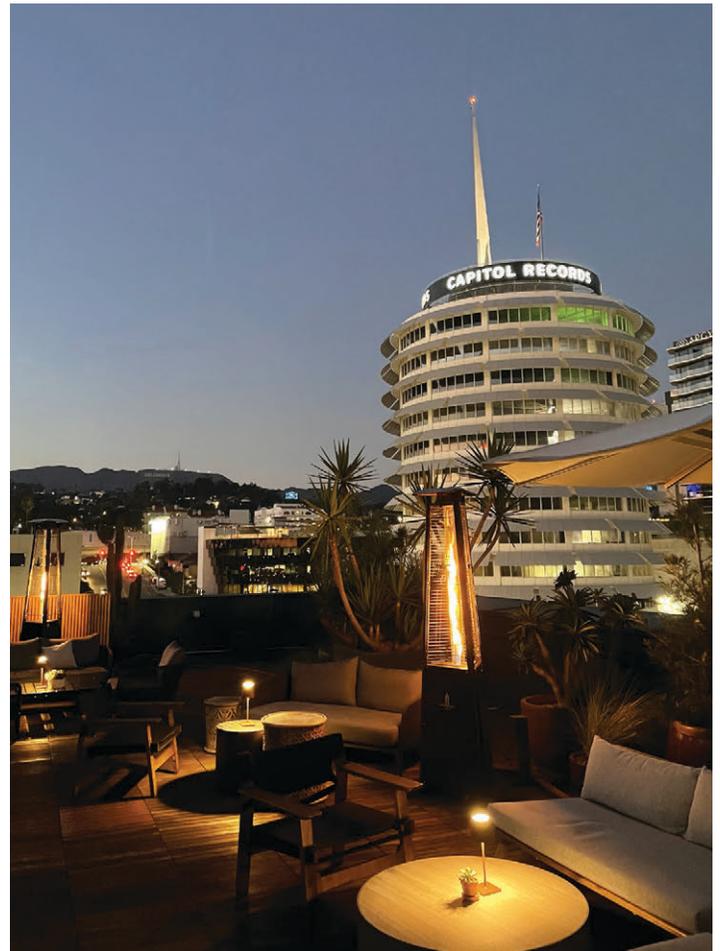
Jill Simpson, executive director of the Oklahoma City Film and Creative Industries Office at the Chamber, said the four film offices are more partners than competitors.

"If a particular project chooses Tulsa, for instance, I still see it as a win for Oklahoma City because it's helping grow the state's crew base and infrastructure. And it also doesn't mean that crew from Oklahoma City can't go work on that particular film," she said.

The Oklahoma film partners are sharing a suite at the host hotel where they will hold meetings with many

"We want to share with them that Oklahoma is an easy place to do business..."

- Jill Simpson



A view from the rooftop of The Aster hotel in Los Angeles where Oklahoma film officials will be hosting a reception Nov. 2 for about 200 invited industry guests.

industry executives and filmmakers.

"A good thing about our four offices coming together is that we opened our Rolodexes and jointly came up with a list of about 400 or 500 people we have all worked with from all the major studios and production companies. We invited guests from Universal, Paramount, Warner Brothers, Sony and Netflix. We have also gone to a second tier of smaller production companies that might be a good fit for Oklahoma as well," Simpson said.

On Nov. 2, they are also hosting a Hollywood reception that is expected to attract about 200 guests, including industry decision-makers and studio executives. The overarching goal is to talk about the value of bringing film projects to the Sooner State, beyond the state and local incentives.

"We want to share with them that Oklahoma is an easy place to do business and also to open their eyes and change perceptions about Oklahoma for people who have not been here," Simpson said.

“We know that the arena generates an impact to our economy of more than a half a billion dollars a year, and supports 3,000 jobs,” she said. “The construction jobs alone for this facility are also significant – more than 9,000 over the course of building the facility.”

The current arena opened in 2001 and is one of the oldest, and the smallest, in the NBA. It lacks many of the fan amenities found in other arenas. The building also lacks loading docks and other infrastructure demanded by many of the larger touring acts playing arenas today. These demands are expected to grow in coming years, making Oklahoma City less competitive for attracting events residents demand.

The Chamber is leading a coalition of organizations working together to ensure the vote’s success (see a list of coalition members on page 9). Chamber member businesses and organizations are encouraged to join the effort and share the campaign with customers, colleagues and employees.

“If you support this effort, we have numerous ways to help,” explained Gillenwater. “From signs in front of your business, to providing brochures and information to



customers, to emailing your employees with information on the vote and more. Voter registration is still open until November 17, and hosting registration drives for employees and customers is a great way to get involved.”

Members will receive a link later this month to a toolkit to help support their efforts.

To learn more about the campaign or how you can get involved, visit www.keepokcbigleague.com, or call Tyler Moore at 405-796-4078.



WAYS TO HELP KEEP OKC BIG LEAGUE

Please note that the campaign will provide all supplies and materials.

- Make sure employees are registered to vote – deadline November 17.
- Put a window cling in your business.
- Put a poster in your break room.
- Allow the campaign to place a 2'x3' sign on your high-visibility property.
- Put a yard sign in your yard.
- If you are a restaurant, put table tents on your tables prior to the election.
- If you have direct interaction with customers, put pocket brochures by the cash registers or, for example, put them into drive through bank tubes.
- Write a letter to the editor.
- Join the social media for the campaign and re-post on your personal and / or your business channels. Social media links are available through the website www.keepokcbigleague.com.
- Post your own messages on social media –please tag the campaign.
- Email or communicate your support to employees and remind them of deadlines such as voter registration,

absentee voting, early voting and election day.

- Allow employees to assist with campaign efforts such as putting up signs and distributing materials.
- Allow employees to take time off to vote.
- If you have customer and/or subcontractor lists, communicate your support and urge them to vote yes.
- If you are a member of an association, help us gain their endorsement.
- Provide speaking opportunities for the campaign to make a presentation.
- If you have customers, allow employees to wear Keep OKC Big League t-shirts.
- If you have electronic billboards, allow the campaign to use your space.
- If you have an electronic sign or changeable letter sign, display a vote yes message.
- Remind employees, customers and/or subcontractors to vote on election day.
- Urge employees to wear Thunder shirts, concert shirts or blue on election day.

If you need materials or assistance creating content, please email or call Tyler Moore with the Keep OKC Big League campaign. His email is tylermoore@keepokcbigleague.com. His phone number is 405-796-4078.

KEEP OKC BIG LEAGUE COALITION

- Allied Arts
- Arts Council Oklahoma City
- Associated General Contractors of Oklahoma
- Asian District Association
- Bricktown Association
- Capitol Hill Main Street (Calle dos Cinco)
- Central Oklahoma Labor Federation
- Chickasaw Nation
- Downtown Oklahoma City Business Improvement District
- Del City Chamber of Commerce
- Edmond Chamber of Commerce
- Fields and Futures
- Greater Oklahoma City Chamber
- Greater Oklahoma City Metro Hotel Association
- Laborers International Union of North America - Local 107
- Midtown OKC
- Midwest City Chamber of Commerce
- Moore Chamber of Commerce
- Norman Chamber of Commerce
- North OKC Soccer Club
- Northwest Oklahoma City Chamber
- Oklahoma City Metro Association of REALTORS
- Oklahoma Building Trades Council
- Oklahoma Hotel and Lodging Association
- Oklahoma City Innovation District
- Oklahoma Municipal Contractors Association
- Oklahoma Youth Expo
- Oklahoma Restaurant Association
- Oklahoma Sports Hall of Fame
- Oklahoma Travel Industry Association
- South Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce
- United Way of Central Oklahoma
- Visit OKC
- West Village Association
- YMCA of Greater Oklahoma City



COMMUNITY LEADERS FORGE NEW NARRATIVE FOR OKC GROWTH AND SUCCESS

The key takeaway from the recent Greater Oklahoma City Chamber’s Leadership Summit emphasizes the qualities necessary for thriving communities: thoughtfulness, flexibility and nimbleness. Successful communities unite businesses, government bodies, educators and key stakeholders to adapt, progress and envision new avenues for growth.



During the summit, more than 200 community leaders gathered to formulate a strategy ensuring Oklahoma City’s vibrancy and prosperity over the next 30 years. Ernst & Young LLP (EY) collaborated with the Chamber to craft a strategic plan for economic development, presenting data-driven insights into the region’s competitive landscape.

EY’s Senior Manager Tony Delisi underscored the factors contributing to the community’s success. Oklahoma City’s expansion has placed it in a new league for business development, talent acquisition and innovation, prompting comparisons with cities like Austin, Nashville, Raleigh and Phoenix. Delisi

examined the growth trajectories of those cities over the past three decades.

Delisi highlighted the need to redefine Oklahoma City’s identity beyond its association with oil, gas and the NBA. He pointed out a perception gap among potential employees and corporate decision-makers, emphasizing the need to shape a narrative about the city’s transformation and opportunities.

“I don’t think they’re bad things. Oil and gas are an important part of the region’s history and its present and its future. And the Thunder has put [OKC] on the map,” Delisi said. “But today, we want to be talking about what else you want people to know about Greater Oklahoma City.”

He noted a recent perception survey of site selectors, corporate decision-makers and potential employees, to see what they think about the greater Oklahoma City region. Many of the respondents believe OKC has improved and is getting better; but 36% of employees who participated in the survey had no opinion of greater OKC. And when asked about their awareness of the investments the city has made and the huge turnaround that has occurred in the community, 47% responded they had no idea.

“That is an opportunity if I have ever seen one, not only to better tell the story of where you’ve been and from where you have come, but to tell the story of where you are going. If you are not changing peoples’ minds, you are letting people know what that story is going to be. And that is something that can start today,” Delisi said.

Throughout the event, participants engaged in group activities and planning exercises, fostering discussions and generating ideas. These contributions will aid EY in shaping Oklahoma City’s long-term economic development strategy. The strategic development process will extend into 2024, with an expected completion date in April.

THUNDER GAME IN MONTREAL OFFERS BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT PLATFORM FOR OKLAHOMA CITY



The Oklahoma City Thunder's recent pre-season exhibition game in Montreal offered the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber's economic development team a unique opportunity to showcase the city for business expansion and investment. Like Oklahoma City, the Montreal region boasts a strong aerospace presence and there is a strong potential for partnership.

The Chamber, along with the Oklahoma Department of Commerce, hosted 30 people at a reception prior to the game, including international aerospace

manufacturers, local industry leaders, venture capitalists and international trade specialists.

"We have been interested in developing stronger connections in Montreal for some time," explained Jeff Seymour, the Chamber's executive vice president of economic development. "There are Montreal-based companies involved in activity in our defense and private sector, and we see the opportunity to grow those relationships."

The team was able to attract participants due to their interest in Oklahoma City and potential partnerships, but also because of their interest in basketball.

"The game was a great hook to engage," Seymour continued. "Everyone we talked to in Montreal, when they heard we were from Oklahoma City expressed excitement about the game – from customs officers to taxi drivers to our clients. The city was excited to host the game and we were able to really ride that wave and make excellent connections."

The Chamber's staff and the Oklahoma Department of Commerce will now take those contacts and continue to look for future connections, growing that business pipeline and building stronger relationships.

2024 OKLAHOMA CITY VISITOR POCKET GUIDE NOW AVAILABLE

Discovering Oklahoma City's top spots is now even easier with the release of the 2024 Oklahoma City Pocket Guide. Visit OKC's comprehensive booklet is your ticket to unlocking the city's hidden treasures and unforgettable experiences.

One of the highlights of the guide is its meticulous curation of must-do activities and attractions. The pocket guide ensures you don't miss out on any of them. From awe-inspiring exhibits and enchanting live performances to stunning street murals and thrilling whitewater rafting, the possibilities are endless. The guide also provides insights into family-friendly destinations, promising fun-filled experiences for visitors of all ages.

The guide is an absolute must-have for food lovers ready to indulge in OKC's spectacular culinary scene. It showcases an array of restaurants, cafes and food trucks that cater to every palate, from mouthwatering barbecue, farm-to-table delicacies and delectable international cuisine. With the guide's recommendations from local food experts, a culinary journey in Oklahoma City promises to be a feast for the senses.

The guide, which also includes coupons, is your key to unlocking the best OKC has to offer. Request a free copy today at VisitOKC.com.



departmental reform effort, the Criminal Justice Advisory Council (CJAC), the collaborative initiatives have yielded remarkable results. However, the journey towards a more just society is far from over.

A recent follow-up study by the Crime and Justice Institute (CJI) assessed the progress of the Vera Institute's recommendations and found both improvements and challenges. To make its assessment, CJI analyzed data from the current detention center, reviewed state statutes and agency policies and interviewed numerous system stakeholders.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRESS

The first recommendation, the establishment of oversight and accountability mechanisms, led to the creation of CJAC. This initiative not only enhanced transparency but also fostered collaboration among justice system agencies and partners. Similarly, reducing jail admissions for municipal violations and low-level misdemeanors saw a dramatic drop in arrests, highlighting the success of diversion programs and cite-and-release policies. The focus on meaningful diversion options for individuals with mental health and substance use disorders also showcased positive outcomes, offering a glimmer of hope amid complex challenges.

Furthermore, efforts to minimize the impact of fines and fees on jail growth proved fruitful, with a significant reduction in jail admissions. These accomplishments are not just statistics; they represent lives positively affected and unnecessary incarcerations avoided.

CHALLENGES AND UNMET GOALS

Yet, the path to reform was not without hurdles. The third recommendation, the creation of a fair and efficient pretrial release process, remained stagnant. Despite strides made in reducing lengths of stay for some detainees, challenges persisted in ensuring timely access to legal representation and addressing case processing delays. The need for a streamlined system, free from outdated processes, became evident.

NEW RECOMMENDATIONS AND FUTURE GOALS

Looking ahead, the latest CJI study shed light on new challenges. Racial disparities within the jail population



Diversion Hub van waits to transport clients to their scheduled appointments. The Diversion Hub helps them successfully navigate the justice system.

persisted, necessitating a robust data tracking system. Implementing this system and encompassing various stakeholders will enable a comprehensive analysis of trends, fostering accountability and promoting equity within the system.

Additionally, setting strict deadlines and review points throughout the court process emerged as a crucial recommendation. By ensuring individuals are not detained longer than necessary and integrating comprehensive risk assessments, the county can strike a balance between public safety and individual rights.

THE JOURNEY AHEAD

In the past seven years, Oklahoma County has made commendable progress, driven by the dedication of its stakeholders. However, the road to comprehensive reform is ongoing. As we celebrate the achievements, we must also acknowledge the challenges and commit to addressing them. With determination and collaboration, Oklahoma County can continue to lead the way in criminal justice reform, fostering a safer, fairer, and more equitable society for all its residents. The journey continues, fueled by the unwavering belief in a justice system that serves, protects and uplifts every member of the community.

DC Spotlight

featuring
Congressman Frank Lucas

DC SPOTLIGHT FEATURES A DISCUSSION WITH CONGRESSMAN FRANK LUCAS



Join us for our annual DC Spotlight event, where you'll have the unique opportunity to hear from Congressman Frank Lucas. Gain valuable insights as Rep. Lucas shares his perspective on the current challenges facing Congress and the nation. The event will be Nov. 20 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at

the Champion Convention Center, 737 S. Meridian Ave.

Lucas, the dean of Oklahoma's seven-person delegation, will delve into his influential role as the

chairman of the U.S. House Committee on Science, Space and Technology. He will also discuss his remarkable tenure as the longest-serving Republican member of the U.S. House Committee on Financial Services and the U.S. House Committee on Agriculture.

This event will give you a deeper understanding of current federal issues and how they may impact your business, empowering you to make well-informed decisions. You won't want to miss this enlightening conversation.

Tickets are \$50 for Chamber members and \$75 for nonmembers. To register or learn more, visit okcchamber.com/dcspotlight. Sponsor tables of eight with additional recognition are available for \$1,100. Please contact Suzette Ellison Jordan at sellison@okcchamber.com for table sponsor inquiries.

Special thanks to Presenting Sponsor Cox Communications and Host Sponsor The Chickasaw Nation.

GRAND OPENINGS

Congratulations to Chamber members on their recent Grand Openings! To see the schedule of upcoming Grand Openings or subscribe to the Grand Openings calendar, visit okcchamber.com/grandopenings.

Bob Hurley RV

8606 N. Interstate 35
Service Road
Oklahoma City, OK 73131

Body20 Nichols Hills

6425 Avondale Drive
Nichols Hills, OK 73116

NewView Oklahoma

Garden Grand Opening &
Fall Festival
501 N. Douglas Ave.
Oklahoma City, OK 73106



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.

ADVISOR

Cedars Group Commercial Development

Real Estate - Commercial
Ms. Carol C. Hefner.....(405) 348-9551
17927 N. Portland Ave.
Edmond, OK 73012-9107
cedarsgroupcommercialdevelopment.com

Steptoe & Johnson, PLLC

Legal Services
Ms. Sandra K. Fraley.....(405) 930-5151
101 N. Robinson Ave., Suite 500
Oklahoma City, OK 73102-5509
www.steptoe-johnson.com

EMERGING LEADER

AllianceHCM

Human Resource Services / Consulting Payroll Services
Mr. Bryce Jones.....(281) 875-1818
128 Visions Park Blvd., Suite 300
Shenandoah, TX 77384-3021
www.alliancehcm.com

NCED Conference Center & Hotel

Convention & Conference Centers Educational Services Hotels & Motels
Ms. Alexandria Stoker.....(405) 447-9000
2801 E. State Highway 9
Norman, OK 73071-1101
cc.ncede.com

ASSOCIATE

Cubic Waste Solutions, LLC

Waste Management & Disposal
Mrs. Joy M. Howard.....(405) 261-9105
8409 SW 8th St.
Oklahoma City, OK 73128-4214
https://cubicwaste.com/

TDF Fleet

Rental Service - Stores & Yards
Mr. Dyron Walls.....(405) 296-0107
3301 S. Meridian Ave.
Oklahoma City, OK 73119-1000
www.tdfleet.com

CORE

Alliance Maintenance

Janitorial Services
Mr. David Ridgway.....(405) 573-7881
2770 Washington Drive, Suite 110
Norman, OK 73069-1016
www.alliancemaintenance.com

PGA Tour Superstore

Retail
Ms. Jennifer Manhnio
2727 W. Memorial Road
Oklahoma City, OK 73134-8034
https://www.pgatoursuperstore.com/stores/oklahoma-city-oklahoma/1245.html

Bob Hurley RV

Recreational Vehicles - Dealers
Mr. Scott Lemmon.....(405) 724-9675
8606 N I-35 Service Road.
Oklahoma City, OK 73131-5614
www.bobhurleyrv.com

Providence Engineering

Engineers - Structural
Ms. Darla Smith.....(717) 894-2065
10 Eisenhower Blvd.
Lancaster, PA 17603-4308
www.proveng.com

BODY20 Nichols Hills

Fitness Centers & Training
Ms. Cheri Poole.....(610) 453-6617
6425 Avondale Drive
238 Rainbow Drive, #13897
Livingston, TX 77399-2038
https://body20.com/nichols-hills/

Sailor & The Dock

Restaurants
Mr. Josh Masterson.....(405) 237-5984
617 W. Sheridan Ave.
Oklahoma City, OK 73102-1003
www.sailorandthedock.com

Chicago Title Oklahoma

Title Companies
Ms. Corinne Albertson.....(405) 843-4988
10607 SE 15th St.
Midwest City, OK 73130-6015
chicagotitleoklahoma.com

Sherpa Moving and Storage Inc.

Movers Storage
Mr. Jesse Gartman.....(405) 724-8750
401 W. 33rd. St., Suite D
Edmond, OK 73013-3802
www.sherpamovingokc.com

Crumb! North May OKC

Bakeries Caterers Restaurants
Ms. Stacey Driskell-Glass.....(405) 500-7950
6315 N. May Ave., Suite B
Oklahoma City, OK 73112-4281
www.crumbcookies.com

Thirty Nine Restaurant

Restaurants
Ms. Kristen Wasemiller.....(405) 594-2139
659 First Americans Blvd.
Oklahoma City, OK 73129-6142
thirtyninerestaurant.com

Great Plains Kubota

Lawn & Garden Equipment & Supplies
Mrs. Lindsey Emery.....(405) 561-3311
2776 Washington Drive, Suite 110
Norman, OK 73069-1018
greatplainskubota.com

Tower Theatre

Amusement / Entertainment / Attractions Entertainment - Event Ticket Sales
Mr. Alexander Larrea.....(405) 708-6937
425 NW 23rd St., Suite 209
Oklahoma City, OK 73103-1507
https://towertheatreokc.com

Santiago-Brennan's McDonald's

Restaurants
Ms. Christine Thompson.....(405) 753-5481
14943 Bristol Park Blvd.
Edmond, OK 73013-1890

Valco, Inc. dba Valco Manufacturing

Aerospace Industries
Mr. Roger Valdez.....(405) 228-0932
4524 Enterprise Place
P.O. Box 2117
Oklahoma City, OK 73101-2117
www.valcomfg.com

Oklahoma Gastro Health and Wellness

Medical Services
Dr. Pooja Singhal.....(405) 608-2772
11100 Hefner Pointe Drive, Suite B
Oklahoma City, OK 73120-5049
www.okgastrohealth.com

VIPcare

Health Services
Ms. Rachel Ellington.....(813) 538-0899
1720 NE 23rd
Oklahoma City, OK 73111-3324

Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation

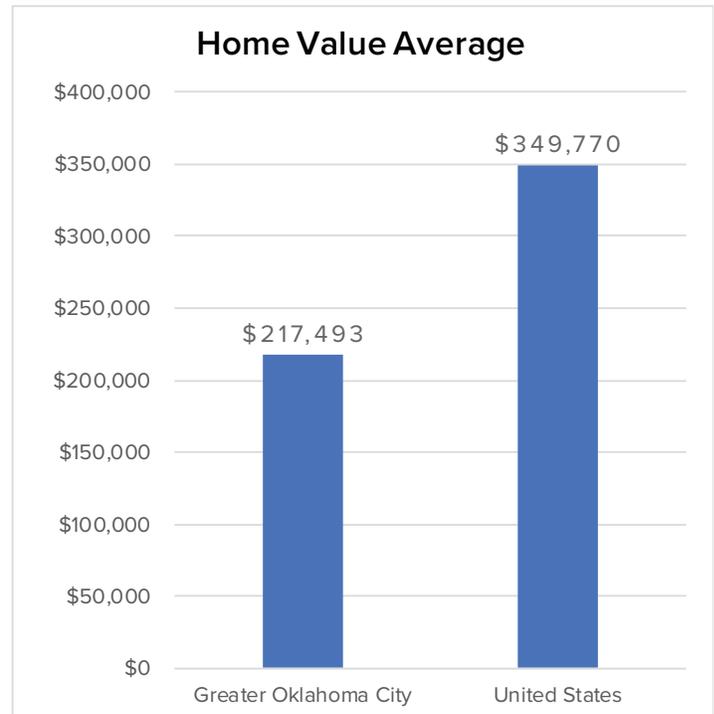
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I. Percent Paid	0	0

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

AVERAGE HOME VALUES IN GREATER OKC SIGNIFICANTLY LOWER THAN NATION

COUNTY	2023 AVERAGE HOME VALUE
LOGAN COUNTY	\$274,232
MCCLAIN COUNTY	\$263,706
CANADIAN COUNTY	\$249,553
CLEVELAND COUNTY	\$235,875
GOKC REGION AVG	\$217,493
OKLAHOMA COUNTY	\$210,241
GRADY COUNTY	\$208,535
KINGFISHER COUNTY	\$205,015
PAYNE COUNTY	\$203,934
POTTAWATOMIE COUNTY	\$162,289
LINCOLN COUNTY	\$161,549



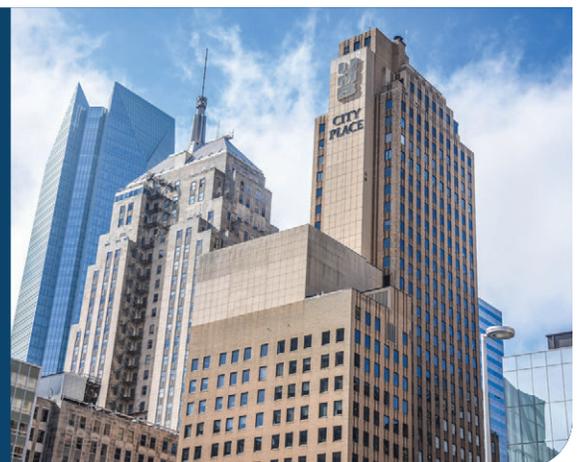
SOURCE: 2023 ZILLOW HOME VALUE INDEX, 10-COUNTY GREATER OKC REGION; ACS 2017-2021 ESTIMATES; REDFIN

- The average home value in Greater OKC is more than \$130,000 less than the nation.
- Over the past 10 years, the Greater OKC average home value has increased by \$100,000, but is still significantly lower than the nation (\$177,000 increase).
- Fewer homeowners in Oklahoma (15.3%) are considered housing-burdened when compared to the nation (17.6%). A homeowner is housing burdened when more than 30% of household income is spent on a mortgage.

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

DID YOU KNOW?

Get regional demographic data, consumer expenditure information, labor force data for the Greater Oklahoma City Region and more at greateroklahomacity.com.



→ V E L O C I T Y ←

Periodicals
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Oklahoma City, OK
73102

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STATE OF THE ECONOMY

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2023
NATIONAL COWBOY & WESTERN HERITAGE MUSEUM
11:30 A.M. TO 1:30 P.M.

REGISTER NOW