



The Bondsman
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January

THE BONDSMAN

2016

RUNNING FOR AN OBA OFFICE OR DIRECTORSHIP

In order to run for an OBA office or directorship during the 2016 educational sessions in Oklahoma City or Tulsa (Catoosa) you must:

- Be a current dues paid member of the OBA.
- In good standing with the Department of Insurance for at least 12 months.
- Obtain an official nomination form by contacting the OBA office.
- Be endorsed on the official form by three members of the OBA also in good standing.
- File the completed nomination form with the OBA office no later than March 1st (so the nominations can be published in the association's newsletter before the two annual educational conferences).

NOTE: Nominations will only be accepted on the official form. No nominations will be allowed from "the floor" or by "write-in".

Additional information can be found in the election article in this issue of the newsletter.

OBA CALENDAR

Note: While we will try to stay with these dates, they are tentative and subject to change. Please check the OBA website for updates.

February 21-25	PBUS Winter Conference at Luxor in Las Vegas
Monday, February 22	11:00 a.m. Associated Bail Agents of Tulsa (ABAT) @ David L. Moss Center/ Training Room
Thursday – Friday, March 3 & 4	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Pre-Licensing Education #1 @ OBA
Thursday, March 17	10:00 a.m. OBA Board Meeting @ OBA
Monday, March 28	11:00 a.m. Associated Bail Agents of Tulsa (ABAT) @ David L. Moss Center/ Training Room
Thursday, April 21	10:00 a.m. OBA Board Meeting @ OBA

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NEW BONDSMAN LICENSES

Kyle Anderson	Beckham County
Joseph Beckwith	Ottawa County
Debra Bouziden	Major County
Bobby Brawdy	Cleveland County
Kenne Carroll	Johnston County
Don Chambers	Tulsa County
Kimberly Davis	Stephens County
Kelsay Donwen Cain	Pontotoc County
Elizabeth Doolin	Oklahoma County
Sandra Fletcher	Tulsa County
Christopher Fogleman	Tulsa County
Michael Garner	Comanche County
Lauren Garnett	Osage County
Adam Gregg	Garvin County
Daniel Hardesty	Tulsa County
Gerald Harris	Okmulgee County
Richard Lamb	Pittsburg County
Iris Lawson	McClain County
Brenda Lundy	Tulsa County
Scott McMillen	Cleveland County
Dana Moore	Beckham County
Keely Points	Muskogee County
James Stacy	Leflore County
Algenon Vick	Payne County
Dustin Westbrook	McCurain County
Gary Wilson	Tulsa County

In Memoriam

Robert Jech (10/27/15)
Doyle James (12/02/15)
Virgil Wallace (12/14/15)

2016 DUES ARE DUE!

Your OBA dues for 2016 are due NOW! Dues paid after January 1, 2016, are not eligible for a discount. Dues NOT paid by March 31st shall result in suspension from membership and suspended members will have no accidental death & dismemberment insurance coverage until their dues are paid up to date. In addition, suspended members will also lose the right to vote in the Association's annual elections during the two educational conferences. Voting rights WILL NOT be reinstated until after the annual elections in June. **Even if dues are paid in full before the voting date, the right to vote is lost on March 31st and not reinstated until after the annual educational conferences!**

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS UP FOR NOMINATION & ELECTION IN 2016

The following OBA offices and directorships are up for nomination and election this year, 2016:

The offices of Vice President, currently held by Raymond Merrill, and Treasurer, held by Wayne Holder, will stand for re-election during the two OBA Educational Conferences in June.

In addition, even numbered Director positions will stand for election in June. The NE Region Director is District 2 and held by David Hamilton and the SW Region Director is District 4 and held by Joe Bob Nelson. The At-Large Director position is counted as even and is held by Rusty Roberts.

The offices of President, Secretary, and the odd numbered Director positions will stand for election or re-election in 2017.

Note: The OBA Constitution provides, "(i)ncumbents in the positions of Officers and Directors shall be deemed to be candidates for their respective positions unless they expressly request not to be retained. All other candidates for these positions shall be nominated on forms to be provided by the Association and distributed **upon request** to the members. Any nominations not on the correct form will not qualify for election. There shall be no nominations from the floor, nor any 'write-in' candidates. **The nominations must be provided to the Association no later than March 1 of the year in which that person is standing for election**"

If interested in running for one of the positions up for election this year, please see the short article "Running for OBA Office or Director" in this issue of THE BONDSMAN.

The election of officers and directors will be conducted during the two annual educational conferences in Oklahoma City and Tulsa (Catoosa). All qualified member voters will be provided a ballot to be filled in and placed in a locked ballot box. The votes cast in Oklahoma City will be sealed in the ballot box to be opened and counted after the close of balloting during the Tulsa conference. Official counting of the ballots will be conducted by non-OBA members or staff.

PRE-LICENSURE SCHOOL HELD IN SPITE OF FLOOD

OBA Executive Director Cathy Guyer arrived at the association's building on Monday morning, November 30, following the Thanksgiving weekend to find three to six inches of water covering the entire basement floor, including the kitchen, restroom, storage areas, and the large classroom where the Pre-licensure school was to be held the following Thursday and Friday.

The association's security cameras showed that the flooding began on Thanksgiving Day. The two sump drain pumps both failed and the flood water had no where to go except up and into the building. To complicate matters, a drain outside the basement door was covered in fall leaves and was not working at full capacity. One of the sump pumps had a defective motor winding which tripped the electric power breaker and the second pump's impeller was jammed by a small piece of rock.

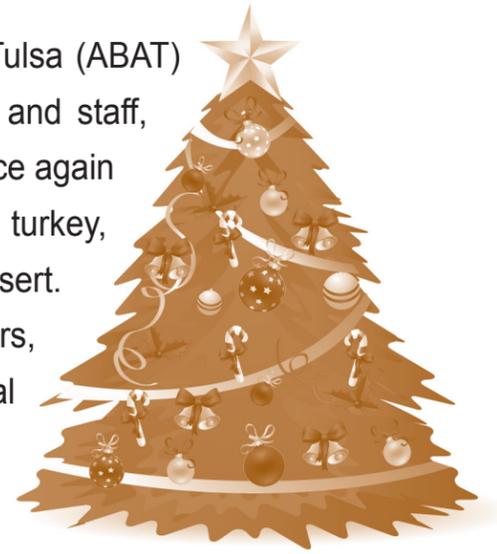
Because of the damage to the flooring and the base boards in the entire basement, the classroom could not be used for the December 3 & 4 school. The OBA staff started looking for an alternative location nearby, but was unable to come up with one that would work because of electrical outages in the area. It was determined that the class could be held in the Association's Board Room by squeezing in as many chairs as possible.

Fortunately the students understood the problem and with their cooperation, the school went off without a hitch. Although one instructor did comment that it was like lecturing to a can of sardines.

The building did suffer several thousand dollars in water damage. The entire wooden floor in the basement needs replacing, including the tile floor in the men's restroom area. A flood damage recovery company came in on that Monday with 30 fans and 4 large dehumidifiers to help dry the area. Some furniture was damaged and will need to be replaced.

ABAT'S CHRISTMAS LUNCH SUCCESSFUL

The 14th annual lunch hosted by the Associated Bail Agents of Tulsa (ABAT) on December 18th for the Tulsa County courthouse employees and staff, including officers and members of the Tulsa Sheriff's office was once again a great success. Nearly five hundred filled their plates with ham, turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes, dinner rolls, and topped it off with a desert. This year's lunch also presented an opportunity for ABAT members, OBA Directors/Officers and OBA staff, to meet and visit with several District Judges, staff from the District Attorney's office, Tulsa County Court Clerk Sally Howe Smith and numerous court and jail staff that bondsmen deal with in the normal course of business.



The goal of ABAT in hosting these events over the past 14 years has been to establish, maintain and strengthen the relationship between bondsmen and those individuals and officials that bondsmen must deal with on a regular basis. Partially because of this annual lunch over the years, the important and valuable role of the bondsman within the judicial system has gained the respect of local law enforcement and judicial officials and staff.

NEW GRANDFATHERED BONDSMEN IN 2015 CONGRATULATIONS!

Jerold Emerson
Deborah Judge
Gary Kerns
William Kilpatrick
Linda O'Leary

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2015 BPAC CONTRIBUTORS

Thank You!

Connie Allbritton
Ken Boyer III
William East
Tracey Halley-Terrell
Shawn McClanahan
Rodney Steddum
Charles Smallwood
Barry Tucker
Denny Wharton