



TWO OFFICER POSITIONS UP FOR ELECTION

Two officer positions on the OBA Board of Directors will be up for election during the OBA's two June education conferences in Oklahoma City and Catoosa (Tulsa). Two candidates each are running for the OBA office of Vice President and two more for the office of Treasurer.

Under the OBA by-laws it is presumed an incumbent will stand for re-election, unless they announce their intention not to. The office of Vice President was vacated with the resignation of Rusty Roberts and current Treasurer Wayne Holder chose not to seek re-election.

The two candidates for Vice President are Ron Eden and Carol Knight. Connie Allbritton and Anthony Lemos are running for Treasurer.

A formal nominations process was conducted according to the OBA By-laws and nominations were received from two persons for each office. Each nominee was asked to provide a 100 word statement about their qualifications for office. (Their statements are reproduced below.)

The actual election will be conducted during the annual two education conferences. Voting will be conducted from the first break in the morning, until 1:00 pm, in Oklahoma City on June 5. At that time the polls will be closed and the ballot box will be sealed and stored in a secure location until the Tulsa conference.

A second ballot box will be used in Tulsa on June 26 to conduct voting from the first break until 1:00 pm. At that time the two ballot boxes will be given to an independent entity and the ballots from both will be tabulated. The winner for each office will be announced in Tulsa as soon as the count is documented.

There is provision for resolving a tie vote by coin toss in the By-laws.

VICE PRESIDENT CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

Ron Eden

My name is Ron Eden and I am running for Vice President. My mother was a local bondswoman from 1984 until her death. During these years I returned to Oklahoma to work in my family's bail business. For several years, I was the Government Relations/Public Affairs director for a large insurance company that wrote bail. I traveled the country working with legislators and resolving conflicts with bondsmen and their regulators. I have served on numerous committees as a bail advisor at the request of past officers. I would appreciate your vote and consideration for serving on your OBA Board.

Carol Knight

The Bail Industry is more than just a business. It is a way of life. We each have the same issues. When one of us has problems, we need solutions. As the current Vice President of the Oklahoma County Bondsman Association it has been my pleasure to meet with Judges, our District Attorney and other county officials to help the industry. When legislators wanted licensing for bail enforcement, it gave me an opportunity to learn how to change the legislative process. If elected Vice President of the OBA, my door will always be open to everyone.

TREASURER CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

Connie Allbritton

I have been a bondsman for more than 20 years. I started attending the OBA meetings in 2010 because I wanted to keep up with the issues and I have been to PBUS in Vegas several times. I am running for the board because I am concerned about the future of our business. There is a national movement to do away with bondsman. They are very organized and well funded. If we want to have a profession we need to work to save it. I would appreciate your vote.

Anthony Lemos

My name is Anthony Lemos. I am running for the office of Treasurer for the Oklahoma Bondsman Association. I have been a bondsman for 14 years. I run a successful business for myself and also have many years experience as being a Managing General Agent. I believe my knowledge and experience will enable me to perform the duties as your Treasurer. I promise to be a strong voice for all bondsman of Oklahoma. I humbly and respectfully ask for your vote. Thank You.

PRE-LICENSE SCHOOLS FOR 2018

May 31 & June 1, 2018

September 6-7, 2018*

December 6-7, 2018*

*The pre-licensing course is 16 hours, as mandated by Title 59 of the Insurance Code. Registration fee: \$1200
Fee will be \$1800 beginning with the September 2018 class.

A \$200 advance deposit must be received 7 days before the class, and the balance must be paid the day of the first class. Deposit is required to confirm space due to limited class size. Confirmation to deposit will be mailed immediately until class size is full and then substitution list will be started in case of cancellations.

**Deposit will be \$300 beginning with September 2018 class.*

Lunch is included, however we do not accommodate special diets. Cancellations must be received 2 days prior to class day for full reimbursement. Study materials will be provided.

**Please contact Cathy Guyer, Executive Director of the OBA, for additional information. She may be contacted by calling 405.524.5920, or toll free at 1.866.374.6257.
Website: www.okbondsman.com**

POOLE & TREPAGNIER NOW ON PBUS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Oklahoma bail bondsmen Laurie Poole and Tom Trepagnier are now serving on the PBUS Board of Directors. Poole's appointment as Director at Large was announced by PBUS Chairperson and President Beth Chapman in her March Message from the President. Poole is also a member of the OBA Board of Directors.

Trepagnier was elected to fill the unexpired director position held by Dudley Goolsby and vacated with his untimely death. Trepagnier will be the Midwest Director on the Board.

In reporting other activities of the PBUS, President Chapman announced the advancement of H.R. 2152, the Citizen's Right to Know bill sponsored by PBUS and authored by Congressman Ted Poe (R-Texas). It appears to be headed to the floor for consideration by the House of Representatives. (By the time you read this, the bill may have already passed out of the House and sent to the U.S. Senate for consideration.)

As a summary, the bill requires any pre-trial service program, which receives federal money, to report the following to the U.S. Attorney General: (1) the amount of funds received by each pre-trial service program; (2) the identity, criminal history, and previous failures to appear of all defendants for which funds are used; and (3) the appearance rates of those participating in the funded programs. The bill then requires the AG to make public all information received from the funded programs

The chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, the committee that passed the bill out for consideration by the entire House said, "„, this bill is beneficial, because citizens have the right to know what types of defendants are being released prior to their trial. If defendants have a long history of criminal behavior or frequent failure to appear in court, the community should know that. Likewise, residents should be aware if their community is running a successful pretrial services program."

The Chairman then went on to cite a study released by the Bureau of Justice Statistics that found when "compared to release on recognizance, defendants on financial release were more likely to make all scheduled court appearances. Defendants released on an unsecured bond or as part of an emergency release were most likely to have a bench warrant issued because they failed to appear in court."

2018 CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Tuesday, June 5, 2018

CE#1 -Reed Conference
Center and Sheraton Midwest
City Hotel
5800 Will Rogers Road
Midwest City, OK 73110
405/455-1805

OBA Room Rate \$99.00 + tax

Room Rate Cut-Off Date
May 05, 2018

Tuesday, June 26, 2018

CE#2 – Hard Rock Hotel &
Casino
I-44 & Exit 240-A
Catoosa, Oklahoma
1-800-760-6700
OBA Room Rate \$111.00 + tax

Room Rate Cut-Off Date
June 2, 2018

OKLAHOMANS WIN IN PBUS POKER TOURNEY

Two Oklahoma bondsmen placed in the top six winners in the new PBUS Poker Tournament held during the association's winter meeting. Laurie Poole and J.B. Askins placed second and sixth out of a field of 35 players to bring home the money.

There is going to be an effort to make the tournament a regular part of each PBUS conference. Another tournament is already set up for the summer conference in Denver.

OBA BOARD LOSES THREE MEMBERS

The Board of Director of the OBA has lost three of its' members in the first three months of this year. All three are leaving the Board for personal reasons.

Rusty Roberts, long time member of the Board and currently serving as OBA Vice President announced his resignation in March. He was just completing his first appointed term as Vice President and determined that he did not wish to seek re-election.

Barry Tucker, the OBA's long time Legislative Chairman and Denny Wharton, the OBA's Community Relations Chairman, also announced their resignations. President Merrill announced that he would name their replacements after the elections to be held during the annual educational conferences in June.

REMINDER!!!

With the two year license for bondsmen, grandfathered bondsmen are the **ONLY** bondsmen that are exempt from taking Continuing Education classes. In order to bank your credit hours for renewal, you **MUST** take continuing education every year!



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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.

Thursday, April 19	10:00 a.m. OBA Board Meeting @ OBA
Monday, April 23	11:00 a.m. - Associated Bail Agents of Tulsa (ABAT) David L. Moss Center/ Training Room
Thursday – Friday May 31 & June 1	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Pre-Licensing Education #2 at OBA
Monday, June 4	2:00 p.m. OBA Board Meeting & Annual Membershi Meeting @ OBA
Tuesday, June 5	7:30 a.m. -CE #1 – Reed Conference Center (Midwest City)
Tuesday, June 26	7:30 a.m. - CE #2 – Hard Rock Hotel & Casino (Catoosa)
Monday, June 25	11:00 a.m. - Associated Bail Agents of Tulsa (ABAT) @ David L. Moss Center/ Training Room
July 29 – August 1	Mid-Year PBUS Conference in Denver, Colorado
Monday, July 23	11:00 a.m. - Associated Bail Agents of Tulsa (ABAT) @ David L. Moss Center/ Training Room

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NEW BONDSMAN LICENSES

Jericho Holder	Choctaw County
David Howell.....	Creek County
Tami Utsler.....	Grady County
Elizabeth Hurlbutt	Garfield County
Tye Landreth	Pushmataha County
Randall Rowden.....	Delaware County
Brenda Miller	McClain County
Lawrence Penney	Oklahoma County
Sara Vidaurri	Beckham County
Ronald Montgomery, Jr.....	Creek County
Marshall Clayton.....	Stephens County

In Memoriam

John Baker (03/01/18)
James Lang (03/01/18)