“I learned from my white students; they learn from me. The beauty of America is in the diversity of her people.”
—CLARA LUPER, The Oklahoman
For the Nov. 3 election, there are alternatives to notarization. Check the state or your county election board websites for details.

Any Oklahoma voter can vote by absentee ballot. No reason is required.

For the Nov. 3 election, an absentee ballot must be requested from your county election board by 5 p.m. on Oct. 27.

Notaries cannot charge a fee for notarizing a signature on an absentee ballot.

Your affidavit envelope is notarized and placed inside the return envelope.

Mail your absentee ballot at least a week in advance.

Two stamps are recommended when mailing your absentee ballot.

Notaries can be commonly found at tag agencies, photostopy shops, A&A, real estate firms, tax prep firms, insurance agencies, and banks.

For any questions, contact your county election board or the League of Women Voters for additional information about voting.

VOTING IS VITAL.

Dear Fellow Oklahomans,

Voting is the lifeblood of our democracy. It empowers us to choose those whom we want to represent us — those upon whom we bestow power to manage and lead the systems and institutions that cause democracy to flourish or flounder.

Civil rights legend John Lewis, heralded for his lifelong commitment to making democracy work for all Americans, championed voting rights in the Civil Rights Era and beyond. He and others put their lives on the line — literally — for a core principle underlying democratic elections: one person, one vote.

We remember Freedom Summer. We remember James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, and Michael Schwerner. We remember the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Voting gives us voice. The franchise is our top-shelf tool for fixing what ails our democracy at the local, state, and national levels.

Congressman Lewis, in his final essay published posthumously in The New York Times, opined: “Each of us has a moral obligation to stand up, speak up, and speak out. When you see something that is not right, you must say something. You must do something. Democracy is not a state. It is an act, and each generation must do its part to help build what we called the Beloved Community, a nation and world society at peace with itself.”

We each have individual agency — the power to effect change in ways sometimes imperceptible, sometimes immeasurable, but always impactful. Voting is one profound way to exercise that agency, to unleash that power.

We are approaching the centennial of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre, a most undemocratic event. It is fitting that we consider how to leverage the lessons of our historical racial trauma in ways that honor the memory of those who bled and died so we — all of us — might fully engage with our democracy.

Leaders like Oklahoma’s own civil rights icon, Clara Luper, understood the imperative of making America a more perfect union through voting, advocacy, and activism.

If we want communities that are responsive to our needs, if we want leaders who maintain their fidelity to our Constitution and other laws, and if we want fellow citizens who are willing to do the hard work essential to maintaining our democracy, then voting is vital.

Do your part. If you are not registered, register now. If you are unfamiliar with polling places, alternatives to in-person voting, or the issues and candidates, become familiar. Do your homework. If you need assistance with voting, seek it out; come up with a plan.

Voting is not optional. It’s our civic duty. Voting is vital.

HANNIBAL B. JOHNSON, a Harvard Law School graduate, is an author, attorney, consultant, and college professor. He writes, teaches, and lectures about African American history.

@HANNIBALBJ

2020 OKLAHOMA VOTER GUIDE

ON THE COVER: Clara Luper (1923-2011) was a civic leader, retired schoolteacher, and a pioneering leader in the American Civil Rights Movement. She is best known for her leadership role in the 1958 Oklahoma City sit-in movement, as she, her young son and daughter, and numerous young members of the NAACP Youth Council successfully conducted nonviolent sit-in protests against drugstore lunch counters, which punctuated that pattern of segregation. Illustration by Danielle Maniguet.
A convicted felon is allowed to vote in Oklahoma after they are legally competent, not subject to a current felony sentence, and have had their voting rights restored; no action on your part is required. You can vote if you were convicted of a felony in the United States, and your sentence has been fully served.

The Oklahoma state election board website is a good place to start: elections.ok.gov. County election boards also provide a list of sample ballots, too.

At the county level, races are for county clerks, county court clerks, sheriff, and tax assessors. Across the state, there are also various local races.

WHERE CAN I VOTE?

By the end of September, individual sample ballots are available on the state election board website, https://okvoterportal.okelections.us/. County election boards provide sample ballots, too.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO VOTE?

If you are voting by absentee ballot, you must:

• Request an absentee ballot at www.fvap.gov.
• Register to vote using your permanent address or your duty station.
• Request an absentee ballot at https://okelections.us, downloaded from the state election board website.
• You can: Vote absentee. Mail your absentee ballot to the county election board by 7 p.m. on Election Day. You must:

WHERE ELSE CAN I GO FOR INFORMATION?

You can:

• Request an absentee ballot at the Oklahoma State Election Board in Oklahoma City or your county election board.
• Your free Voter Identification Card issued by your County Election Board.
• Register a new absentee ballot affidavit and by personal voting service.

Voting INFORMATION

A: No. If you will be away on Election Day from the precinct where you are registered, you may vote absentee. You can:

• Register to vote after you complete your address change paperwork. Your right to vote is automatically restored, no action on your part is required.
• Absentee voters have an alternate option for absentee voter verification.

If you are disabled:

You can:

• Register to vote if you were convicted of a felony under the governor’s COVID-19 state of emergency. Absentee votes also have an alternate option for absentee voter verification. If you are a military or dependent of someone in the military?

You can:

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WHERE CAN I FIND A SAMPLE BALLOT LISTING MY CHOICES?

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WHAT IF I HAVE PROBLEMS OR WITNESS POSSIBLE VOTER IRRIGULARITIES ON ELECTION DAY?

• The free Voter Identification Card mailed to you with your absentee ballot.

Proof of identity is required for every voter who votes in person at their precint polling place or during early voting.

If you are 18 or older and a U.S. citizen, you can vote!

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### Presidential CANDIDATES

#### DONALD TRUMP (R)
- **FAMILY STATUS:** Married to Jill; four children
- **WHERE SHE LIVES:** 63
- **AGE:** 77
- **EDUCATION:** University of Pennsylvania (B.S.), improved in economics, 1968
- **RECORD:**
  - Trump Management (1968 – 1990)
  - Trump University (1975)

#### JOANNE “JO” JORGENSEN (L)
- **OCCUPATION:** Teacher
- **FAMILY STATUS:** Married to Jeff
- **WHERE SHE LIVES:** Des Moines, Iowa
- **AGE:** 57
- **EDUCATION:** Northern Michigan University (M.S.), 1984
- **RECORD:**
  - Federal and state governments should not issue or enforce “stay-at-home” orders during the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### JOE BIDEN (D)
- **OCCUPATION:** Benjamin Franklin Presidential Practice Professor, University of Pennsylvania
- **FAMILY STATUS:** Married to Jill; four children
- **WHERE HE LIVES:** 63
- **AGE:** 77
- **EDUCATION:** University of Delaware (B.A.), double major in History and political science and a minor in English, 1968; Syracuse University (J.D.), 1971
- **RECORD:**
  - Create jobs by repairing and modernizing our roads, bridges, and railroads.

### Their Positions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PARTY</th>
<th>TRUMP (R)</th>
<th>JORGENSEN (L)</th>
<th>BIDEN (D)</th>
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<td>• End government subsidies; supports a free market.</td>
<td>• Support the Medicaid Act for “Medicaid for All”</td>
<td>• Ensure the U.S. military remains the world’s strongest; will use military power to protect national security.</td>
<td>• End government control of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac and end “forever wars.”</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Eliminate regulations to ensure citizens get sufficient treatment.</td>
<td>• End the War on Drugs and go after drug dealers.</td>
<td>• Remove barriers to employment and make it easier for medical professionals to work in underserved communities.</td>
<td>• Reform the immigration process, including by shortening waiting times for legal citizenship and expanding number of visas.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Cut foreign aid spending. Maintain previous withdrawals from agreements such as the Iran nuclear deal.</td>
<td>• End “forever wars” in Afghanistan and the Middle East.</td>
<td>• Support passage of House Democrats’ coronavirus relief bill totaling $3 trillion.</td>
<td>• Work to achieve zero carbon pollution from the U.S. electricity sector by 2035, combating climate change.</td>
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<td>• End government control of public assistance programs. Replace family-based green cards with green cards and visas to immigrants who rely on or might rely on public assistance programs. Replace family-based green cards with green cards and visas to immigrants who rely on or might rely on public assistance programs.</td>
<td>• Oppose the Iran nuclear deal.</td>
<td>• Re-enter the Iran nuclear agreement if Iran returns to compliance.</td>
<td>• Support the Iran nuclear deal and ensure compliance.</td>
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<td>• End focus on building border wall and invest in smarter border security.</td>
<td>• Oppose the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program.</td>
<td>• End focus on building border wall and invest in smarter border security.</td>
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<td>• Implement fair, humane immigration policies. Keep borders secure.</td>
<td>• End focus on building border wall and invest in smarter border security.</td>
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<td>• Increase access to legal and affordable immigration.</td>
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<td>• Increase the value of tax credits. Expand the eligibility pool for buying health insurance through CO-OPs.</td>
<td>• End focus on building border wall and invest in smarter border security.</td>
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<td>• Strengthen the Endangered Species Act.</td>
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Legislative BRANCH

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

No. 43 members of the U.S. House of Representatives serve two-year terms and represent congressional districts in each state (apportioned by population).

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

*It is not possible to talk to the people of Selma when I get there Monday that the people in Oklahoma City are walking together in peace and are praying for them.* — CLARA LUPER

Stephanie Bice (R)

• Economy – Tax cuts will stimulate economic growth.
• Health Care – Supports single-payer, universal health care through Medicare for All. Wants to improve medical services in rural areas.
• Immigration – Believes in enforcing strong border demands. Wants to protect key Oklahoma military installations.

Tom Cole (R)

• National Defense/Military – Champions a strong national defense that keeps pace with 21st century threats. Wants to protect key Oklahoma military installations.
• Health Care – Voted 68 times to repeal the Affordable Care Act. Favors some ACA provisions such as protecting pre-existing conditions. Would protect pre-existing conditions. Seeks to lower drug costs and increase affordability and quality; wants protections for small businesses and better health care for Native Americans. Supports more coronavirus testing and transparency and accountability, and fund essential healthcare.

Mary Brannon (D)

• Economy – Need a new currency and gold or silver.
• Health Care – Supports single-payer, universal health care. Would boost funding for recovery programs, training for elected officials and public employees.
• Criminal Justice – Endorses more implicit-bias training, more transparency and accountability, and fund essential healthcare.

Zoe Midyett (D)

• Economy – Need a new currency and gold or silver.
• Health Care – Remove government interference and competition from health care and insurance.
• Criminal Justice – Convert justice system to a restorative justice system.

Robert L. Hudson

• Economy – Need a new currency and gold or silver.
• Health Care – Supports single-payer, universal health care.
• Criminal Justice – Endorses more implicit-bias training, more transparency and accountability, and fund essential healthcare.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH CONTINUED

U.S. SENATE

The terms of about one-third of the Senate membership expire every two years and each state elects two senators for six-year terms.

Executive BRANCH

CORPORATION COMMISSION

• Utilities – The mission of the Corporation Commission is to regulate the state's utilities, including fuel, public utility, and transportation industries.

Judicial BRANCH

DISTRICT 1

• Climate Change – Says climate change is a proven threat. Supports increasing use of electric vehicles, promoting smart thermostats and home automation.

Abby Broyles (D)

• Climate Change – Fossil fuel discharge is proven threat. Supports communities and clean energy transitions; promotes efficient energy use.
• Veterans – Opposes privatization of federal veterans facilities. Opposes private companies running veterans hospitals.

Gary L. Lumpkin

• Climate Change – Advocates a carbon tax. Supports renewable energy projects, such as allowing reserve energy credit for large-scale solar projects.

G. Thomas Fleet (D)

• Climate Change – Supports the Paris accord and is a leading advocate for the Paris accord.
• Veterans – Supports roll-back of veterans affairs privatization and would require state to review private sector VA facilities.

Richard Castaldo (L)

• Military – Opposes federal policy that prevents current and former service members who are gay and transgender from being accepted.
• Veterans – Supports universal military training, freeing gay and transgender service members to serve.

THE 2020 OKLAHOMA VOTER GUIDE

LOOKING FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT CANDIDATES? CHECK OUT VOTE411.ORG.

6 | 2020 OKLAHOMA VOTER GUIDE

BRANCH LEGISLATIVE BRANCH CONTINUED

heads (R)

• National Defense/Military – End the era of endless wars.
• Health Care – Protects pre-existing conditions. Would boost funding for recovery programs, training for elected officials and public employees.
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Richard B. Darby

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"Just as in the women’s suffrage movement, some of us had to go to jail. We knew we couldn’t just sit back, point at someone else, and tell them they had to go. We had to do it ourselves." — CLARA SUPPER

For information about the candidates and the state questions, check out www.vote411.org, Oklahomawatch.org and okvoterguide.com.
Felony Convictions

**State QUESTION 805**

This measure seeks to add a new section 84A to the Oklahoma Constitution. This new Article would not apply to offenders who have ever been convicted of a violent felony, which would prohibit using a person's past nonviolent felonies, such as drug or property crimes, to impose the person a greater, or "enhanced," sentence.

Under Oklahoma law, prosecutors can seek enhanced sentencing for those charged with a felony within 10 years of committing a previous crime. If the early crime was nonviolent and the person's first felony conviction, the sentence for the second crime could be twice as long. For example, if the minimum sentence for the first offense was five years in prison or less, the sentence for the second crime could be up to 10 years. A third nonviolent offense could be enhanced to between three to five times the minimum for the first offense, and six to 10 years in prison.

The proposal would limit using a person's past nonviolent felonies, such as drug or property crimes, to impose a greater, or "enhanced," sentence.

**SUMMARY**

**YES**
- Repeat offenders of misdemeanor domestic abuse or drunk driving could receive longer sentences.
- Oklahoma's incarceration rates stand out internationally, with research showing longer sentences do not deter crime or lower recidivism rates.
- The state continues to have alarmingly high rates of lung cancer and other tobacco-related illnesses. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ranks Oklahoma as a national model.

**OPPONENTS SAY:**
- Repeat offenders would always be punished as first-time offenders.
- An offender's prior criminal history is not guaranteed because results could still be sentenced to the maximum allowable time.
- Budget cuts could impair programs that provide treatment to those who've committed a violent crime as defined in Section 40.
- Oklahoma's incarceration rate stands out internationally, with research showing longer sentences do not deter crime or lower recidivism rates.
- The question would eliminate enhanced sentencing for all nonviolent felonies regardless of the number of repeat offenses. It would not apply to offenses which resulted in the Oklahoma Constitution. This new Article prohibits using a person's past nonviolent felonies, such as drug or property crimes, to impose a greater, or "enhanced," sentence.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**
- [https://www.okeeffesfriends.org/2020/05/30/okla3-sentencing-bill-eliminates-enhanced-sentencing-for-nonviolent-crimes/](https://www.okeeffesfriends.org/2020/05/30/okla3-sentencing-bill-eliminates-enhanced-sentencing-for-nonviolent-crimes/)
- [https://okeeffesfriends.org/2020/05/30/tobacco-settlement-fund-shall-the-proposal-be-approved-for-the-proposal/](https://okeeffesfriends.org/2020/05/30/tobacco-settlement-fund-shall-the-proposal-be-approved-for-the-proposal/)

**Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust**

**State QUESTION 814**

This measure asks voters to amend Section 40 of the state Constitution (Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust Fund) to reduce the percentage of proceeds that go to a state agency, TSET, from 75 percent to 25 percent. As a result, the remaining 75 percent would go to the Legislative Fund and the legislature can determine to continue to direct the portion to the Attorney General.

**SUMMARY**

**YES**
- Oklahoma has the second-highest uninsured rate in the nation at 14.3 percent. Spending on Medicaid will improve the health outcomes of Oklahomans.
- TSET's prime mission is to fight cancer and other tobacco-related illnesses. TSET's programs have saved 42,000 lives and $1.24 billion in health care costs.
- The TSET's programs reduce the tons of tobacco thrown away each year.
- The expansion will take effect on July 1, 2021.
- Adding Medicaid to TSET will leverage up to $1.24 billion in federal funds to help pay for the expansion costs.

**OPPONENTS SAY:**
- TSET spends too much on advertising campaigns for tobacco products.
- It is a national model.
- TSET's programs reduce the tons of tobacco thrown away each year. TSET's programs have saved 42,000 lives and $1.24 billion in health care costs.
- The expansion will take effect on July 1, 2021.
- Adding Medicaid to TSET will leverage up to $1.24 billion in federal funds to help pay for the expansion costs.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**
- [https://okeeffesfriends.org/2020/05/30/tobacco-settlement-fund-shall-the-proposal-be-approved-for-the-proposal/](https://okeeffesfriends.org/2020/05/30/tobacco-settlement-fund-shall-the-proposal-be-approved-for-the-proposal/)
- [https://okeeffesfriends.org/2020/05/30/tobacco-settlement-fund-shall-the-proposal-be-approved-against-the-proposal/](https://okeeffesfriends.org/2020/05/30/tobacco-settlement-fund-shall-the-proposal-be-approved-against-the-proposal/)
OKLAHOMA VOTER GUIDE is a nonpartisan project of the League of Women Voters of Oklahoma. We are proud to offer readers a high-quality resource with analysis and education for the Nov. 3, 2020, election. This Voter Guide does not endorse or oppose any candidates for state and federal office, nor does it take any position on the state questions. We welcome your feedback and encourage you to share this guide, which also is available for download at okvoterguide.com. Questions and comments may be sent to office@lwvok.org.

**My Cheat Sheet**

**Election Day is Nov. 3, 2020**

You are allowed to bring notes into the voting booth, but you are not allowed to show them to anyone. This cheat sheet will help you make an informed decision and reduce ballot fatigue. There are many decisions to make in the voting booth on Election Day. Find your polling place, confirm your registration, and even view a sample ballot at elections.ok.gov.

**My Polling Place:**

Address:

**President:**

**Congress:**

**U.S. House**

DISTRICT #

1 AM VOTING FOR

**U.S. Senate**

DISTRICT #

1 AM VOTING FOR

**State House**

DISTRICT #

1 AM VOTING FOR

**State Senate**

DISTRICT #

1 AM VOTING FOR

**Corporation Commission:**

Todd Hiett (R)  Todd Hagopian (L)

**State Questions:**

SQ805  Felony Convictions  YES  NO

SQ814  Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust  YES  NO

"Many times, we have walked by ourselves; now we appeal to everybody."—Clara Luper

"Your voice is your vote. Use it wisely today."—Mary Lou Zollman

"If you believe in our mission, consider joining your local chapter of the League of Women Voters. Or donating to the LWVOK.org. Membership in the League of Women Voters is open to all women and anyone of good character."—Mary Lou Zollman

For more information, visit lwvok.org.
This year marks the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment, which guarantees American women the right to vote.

The battle for that right began in the 1800s, when women organized and picketed to achieve what many Americans considered a radical change to the Constitution. Sadly, few early supporters lived to see their victory in 1920.

On August 18, 1920, Tennessee became the 36th and final state necessary to ratify the amendment. The official certification of the amendment happened on Aug. 26, 1920, legally giving women the right to vote.

Established six months before the 19th Amendment was signed, the League of Women Voters marks its 100th anniversary. Founded on the idea that a nonpartisan civic organization could provide the education and experience the public needed to assure the success of democracy, the League of Women Voters grew into an inspirational and influential force.

Certainly a milestone was passed when the words “the right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged . . . on account of sex” were added to the U.S. Constitution in 1920. One hundred years later, the League of Women Voters continues its mission of championing the rights of eligible voters and creating a more perfect democracy.

What is the League of Women Voters’ mission?
The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

From its beginning, the League has been a nonpartisan grassroots organization whose leaders believed that citizens should play a critical role in our democracy.

What is the history of the League of Women Voters?
The League was officially founded in Chicago in 1920, just six months before the 19th Amendment was ratified. The League provided a way for women to overcome their lack of confidence about voting and a means for becoming educated about voting.

Since its inception, the League has helped millions of women and men become informed participants in government. In fact, the first League convention voted on 69 separate items as statements of principle and recommendations for legislation.

Among them were protections for women and children, rights of working women, food supply and demand, social hygiene, the legal status of women, and American citizenship.

As a result of the League, women learned not only how to vote but also gained lessons in government, citizenship, and politics in general.

Today the League continues to fight for election protection, democratic reforms, and equal access to the ballot — all while maintaining its commitment to nonpartisanship and fostering an informed electorate.

Why should I support the League of Women Voters?
Government of the people, by the people and for the people cannot function without active involvement of the people.

The League of Women Voters is a unique, nonpartisan organization that is a recognized force in molding political leaders, shaping public policy, and promoting informed citizen participation at all levels of government. We believe in keeping elections free, fair, and assessable.

Supporting the League means you’re part of creating change in our democratic republic. We are, after all, neighbors first and foremost.

How can I support the League of Women Voters?
1. You can join.
2. You can donate.
3. You can volunteer.

Election Day is Tues., Nov. 3. Get engaged. Because the work of empowering voters and defending democracy can never end.

Looking for more information about the election? Check out vote411.org, the Oklahoma State Election Board, or your county election board.